



DARK DAYS

1

THE END



Snyder
Tynion IV
Lee
Hubert
Ronita Jr.
Williams
Janson
Miki
Sinclair

RATED T+ TEEN PLUS
DCCOMICS.COM AUG 2017

DARK DAYS

What is
the Dark
Multiverse?

**THE
ENDLESS
WORLD**

The prelude to the epic event

METAL

**SCOTT SNYDER
JAMES TYNION IV
ANDY RUBERT
JIM LEE
JOHN ROMITA JR.**

JUNE 2017





DARK DAYS

1

THE JOKER



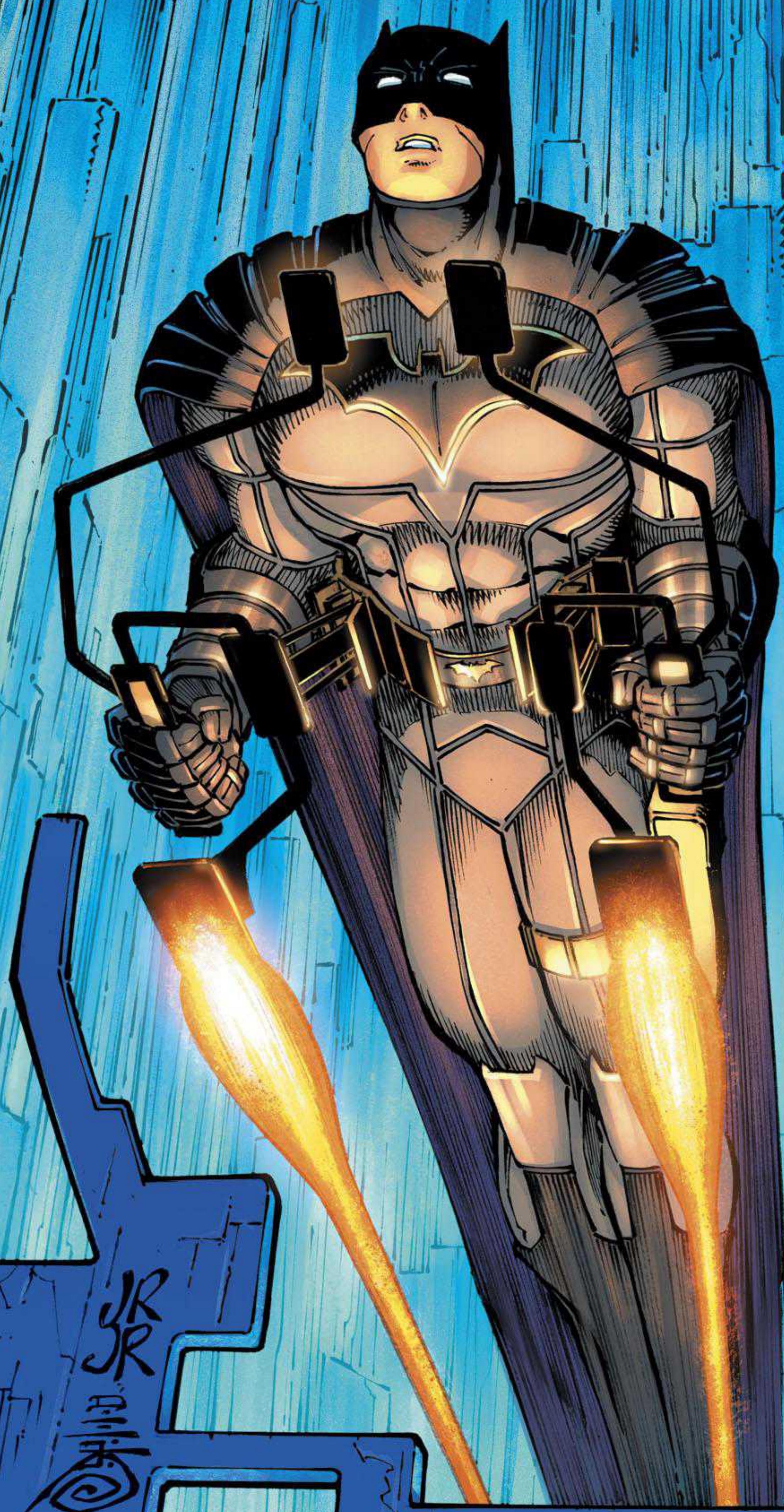
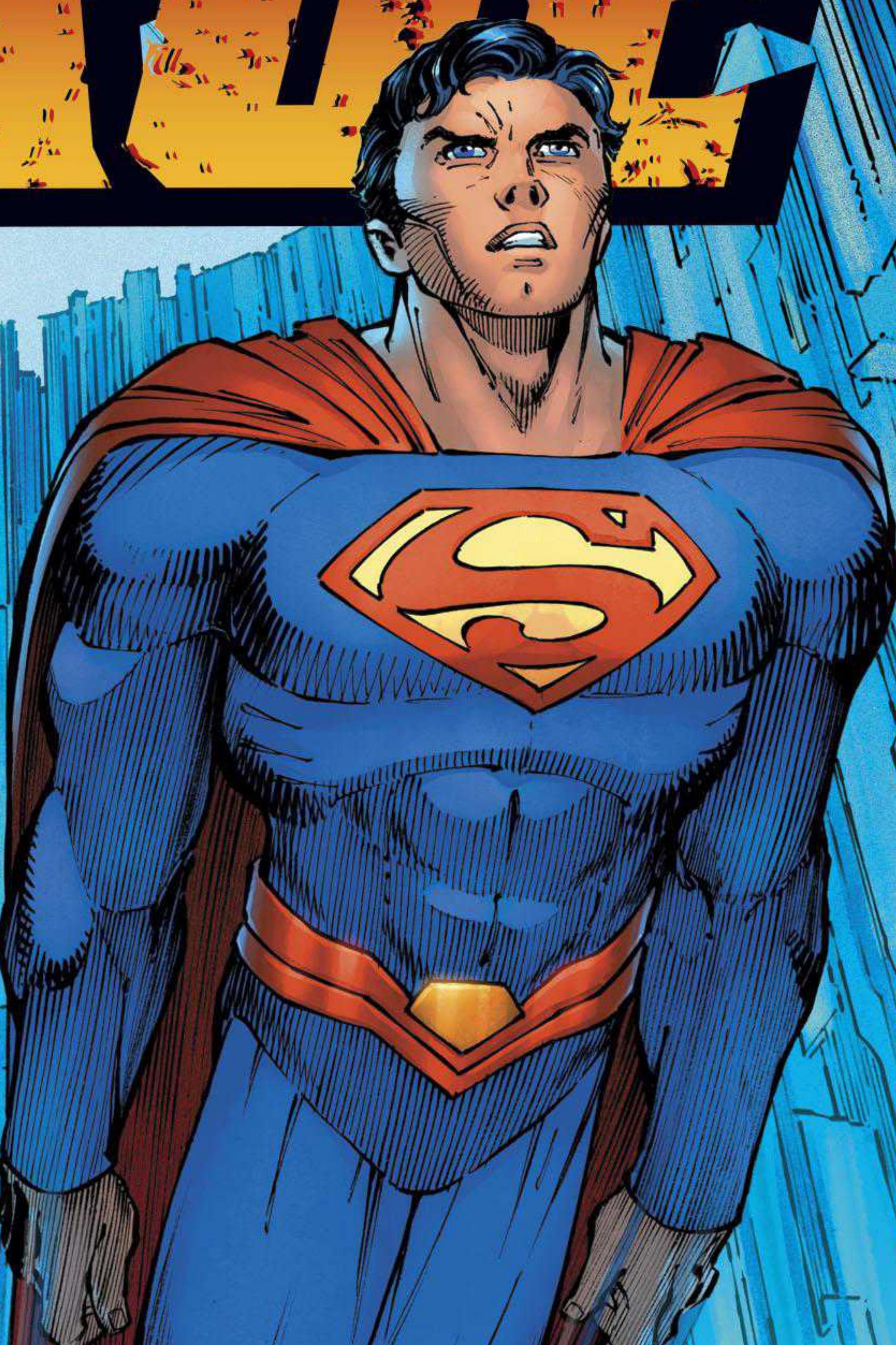
Snyder
Tynion IV
Lee
Kubert
Romita Jr.
Williams
Janson
Miki
Sinclair



DARK DAYS

1

THE END IS NIGH



Snyder
Tynion IV

Lee
Robert
Romita Jr.
Williams
Janson
Miki
Sinclair

There is a feeling you get at the beginning of an adventure...

...you feel it in your veins, the channels, your heart starts pounding...

...beating only for discovery...

My name is Carter Hall and this is my final journal.

I have lived many lives. But I still remember that night like it was yesterday.



A young boy had spied something in the sky, a light, and we rode out together, my princess, my advisor, our guards, all to see what it was.

We could feel it in the air, the start of something big.

Something was coming... something wondrous.

A message from the gods, perhaps? A sign?

But it was no sign.



*It was a clue to the greatest mystery
in the history of mankind.*



And it was written in metal.

NOW.
THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE.

THE TREMORS STARTED FORTY MINUTES AGO AND HAVE ONLY GROWN WORSE... I DON'T KNOW IF THE REST OF THE RESEARCH TEAM MADE IT OUT IN TIME. IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME. THE LAVA WILL ENGULF THE BASE IN MINUTES.

I STAYED TO PROTECT WHAT WE'VE JUST LEARNED. I KEEP READING AND REREADING THE DATA, HOPING IT COMES TOGETHER. HOPING WHAT I THOUGHT I SAW WASN'T TRUE.

PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW. PEOPLE NEED TO UNDERSTAND.

THERE'S SOMETHING... THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE EARTH'S CORE.

R-RECORD MESSAGE.

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE METAL...

AHH!



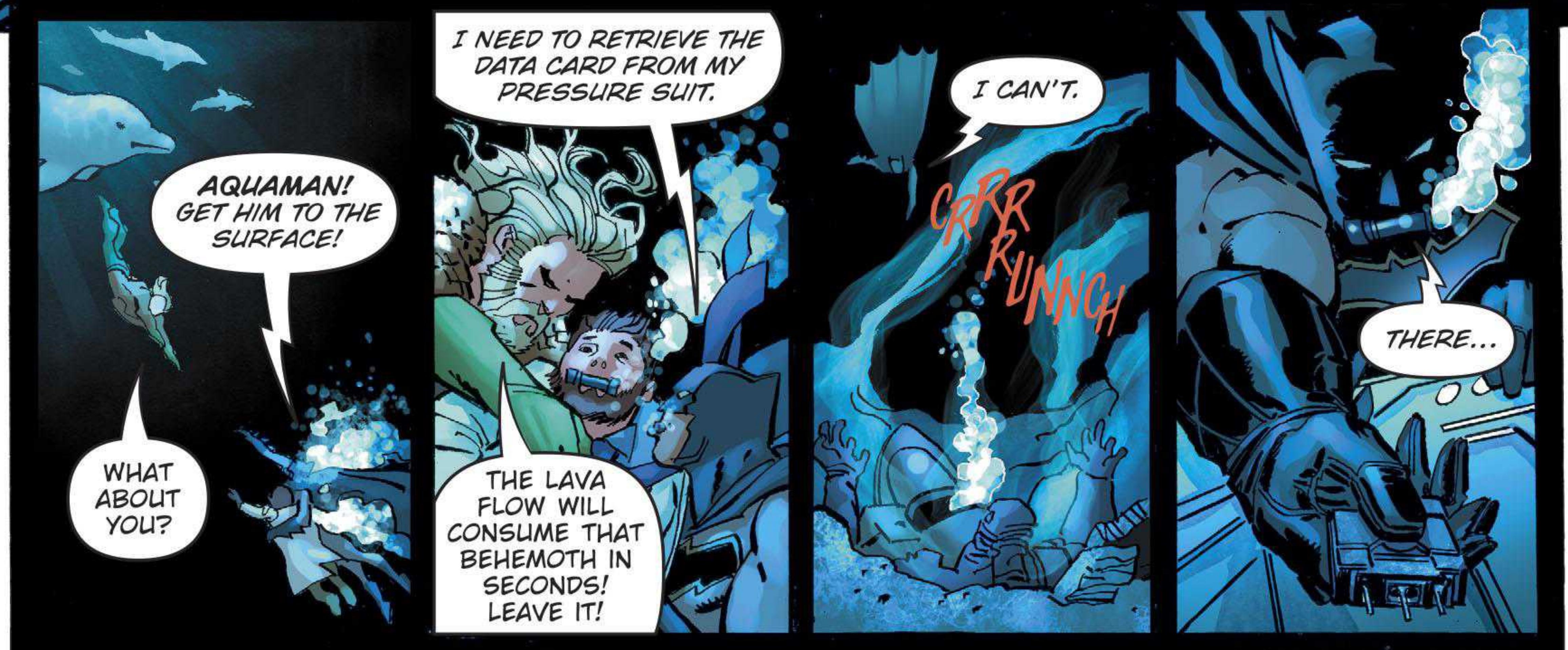
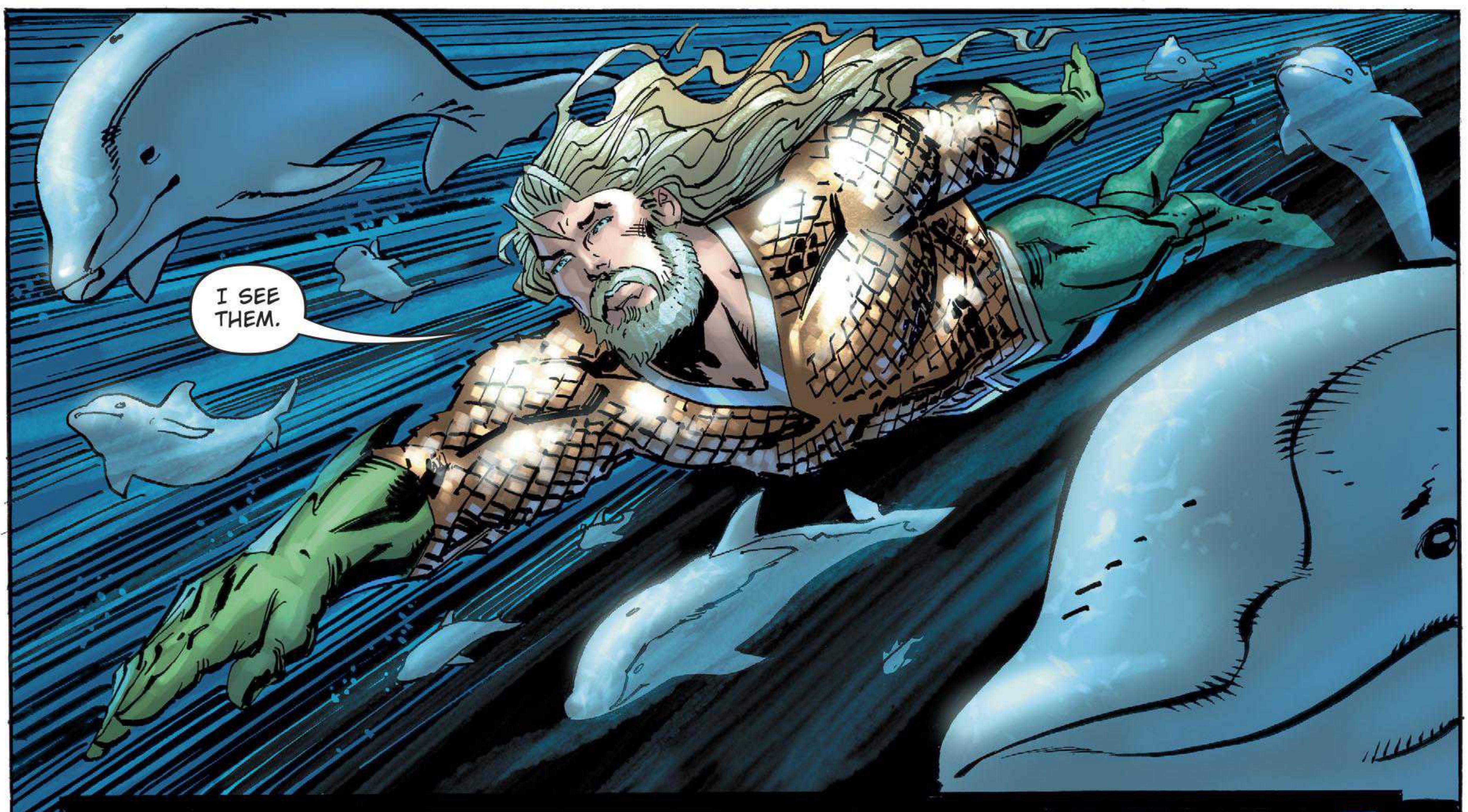
DR. MADISON...

THE ONLY
WAY OUT IS
THROUGH THE
VOLCANO.

GET IN.

B-BATMAN?





THE OTHERS?

MY FRIENDS
ARE PULLING THEM
TO SHORE NOW. NO
CASUALTIES.

THANK YOU,
AQUAMAN.

BATMAN.
THIS WAS A WAYNE
ENTERPRISES BLACK
SITE. AN OFF-THE-
BOOKS DRILLING
OPERATION IN MY
DOMAIN.

YOU WEREN'T JUST
KEEPING THIS PLACE
HIDDEN FROM THE
SURFACE WORLD. YOU
WERE KEEPING IT HIDDEN
FROM ATLANTIS.
FROM ME.

WHAT ARE YOU
LOOKING FOR,
BRUCE?

WITH WHAT I
KNOW IS LOCKED
UNDERNEATH
ATLANTIS...IS
THAT REALLY A
QUESTION YOU
WANT TO ASK
ME?

WHAT WE
NEED TO BE
ASKING IS SIMPLER
THAN THAT,
ARTHUR...

WHAT
ARE THEY
HIDING?

HE CAN LOOK
ALL HE WANTS, BUT
HE WON'T FIND OUT.
LADY BLACKHAWK
TO CONTROL. BRING
ME HOME.



MOGO.
HOME OF THE GREEN LANTERN CORPS.

HAL JORDAN OF EARTH.
I AM TEMPORARILY PULLING
YOU FROM ACTIVE DUTY. I HAVE A
PRIVATE MISSION FOR YOU OF
PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.

THIS MISSION **MUST**
REMAIN SECRET FROM YOUR FELLOW
LANTERNS. **PARTICULARLY** YOUR
FELLOW EARTH MEN.

THIS ISN'T
GOING TO BE ONE OF
THOSE **HAPPY SECRET**
MISSIONS, IS IT,
GANTHET?

THERE ARE
RUMBLINGS IN EVERY
CORNER OF THIS **UNIVERSE**.
WHISPERS OF A STIRRING
IN THE DARK. A TERRIBLE
TRUTH IS COMING TO
LIGHT ON YOUR HOME
PLANET.

AND WE
MUST NOT
LET IT.

WAIT, THESE
ARE THE
COORDINATES?
THIS IS THE
SOURCE
OF THE
THREAT?

IS THERE A
PROBLEM, HAL
JORDAN?

WAYNE MANOR.
GOTHAM CITY.

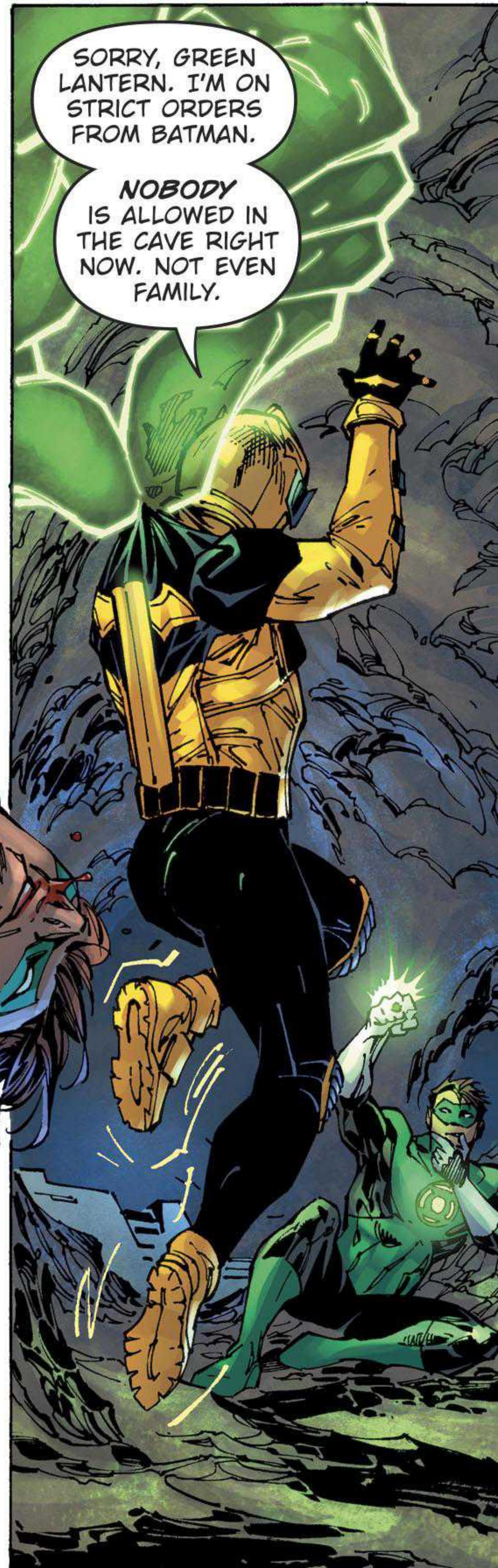
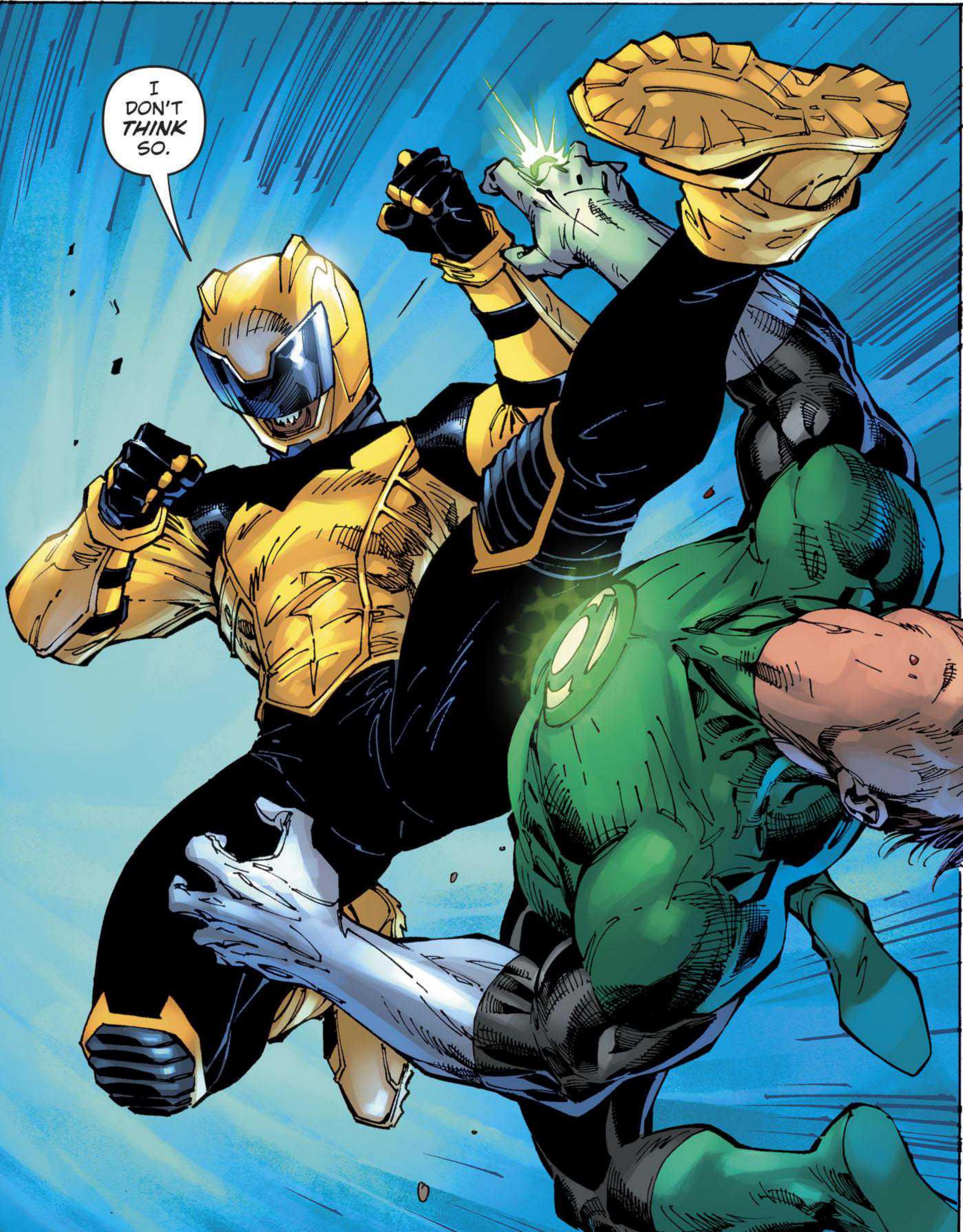
NO. NO
PROBLEM AT
ALL.

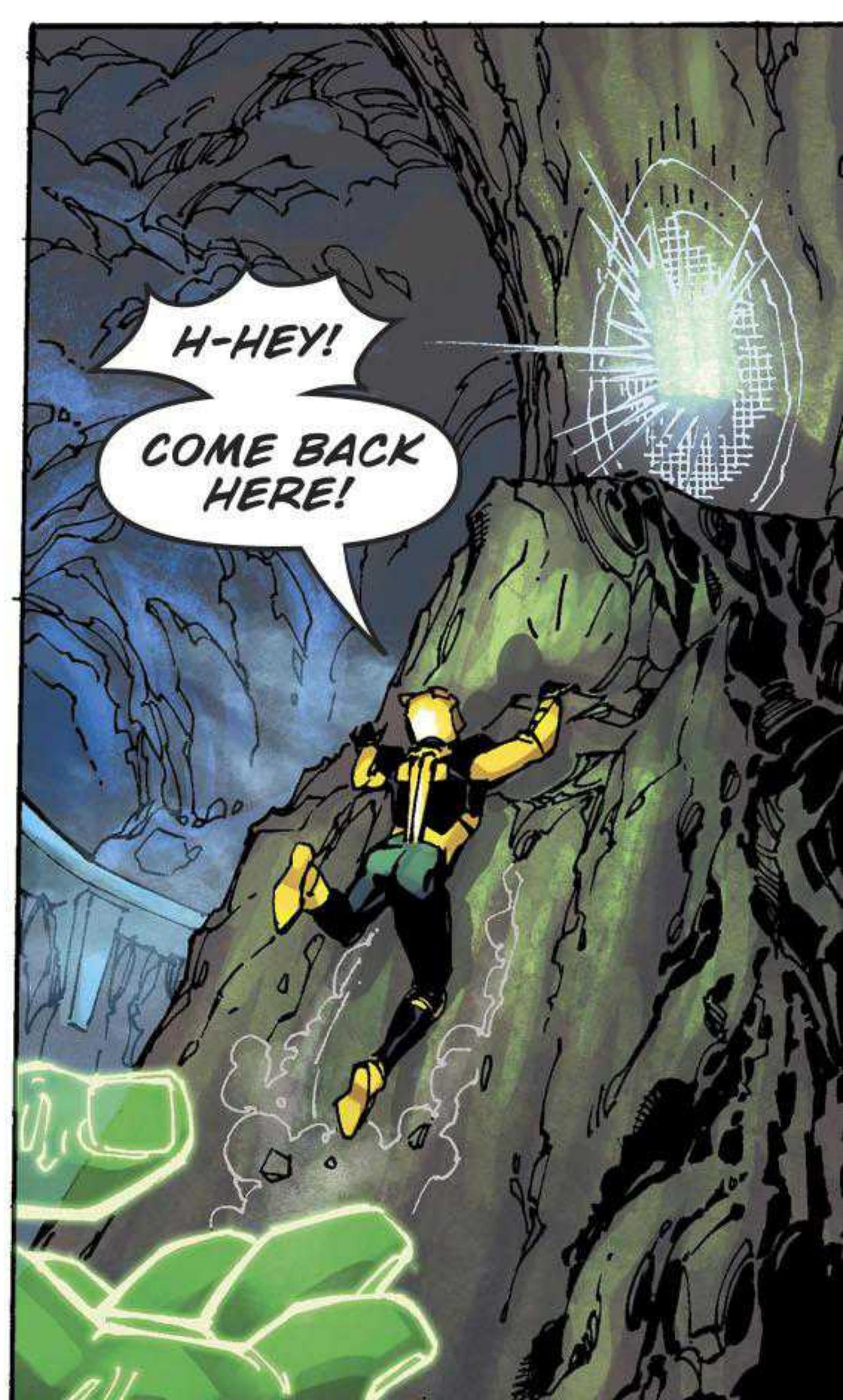
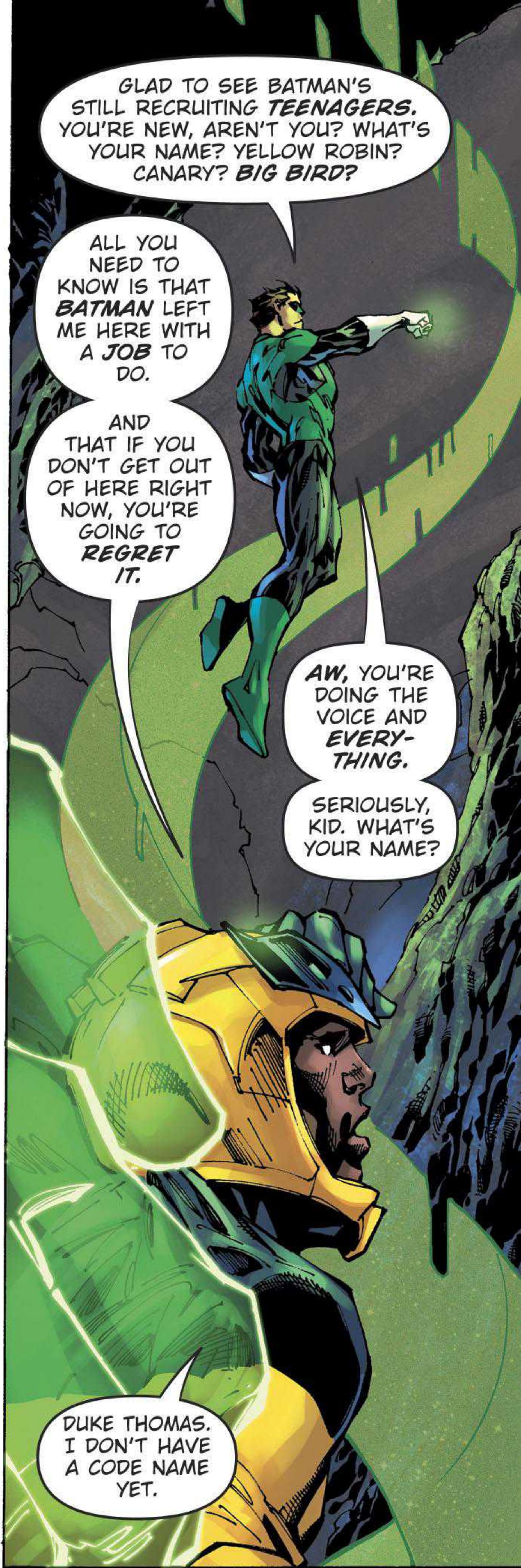


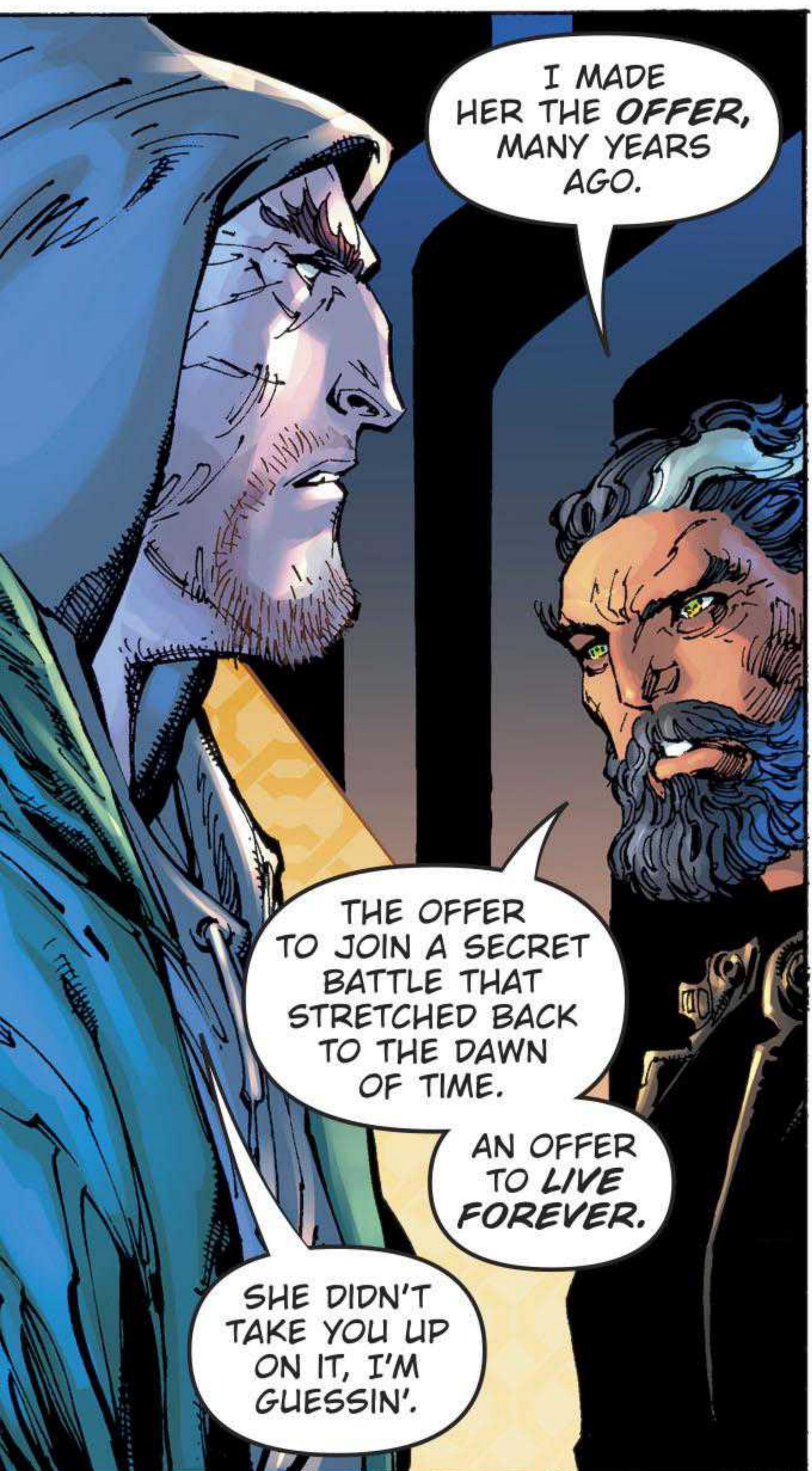
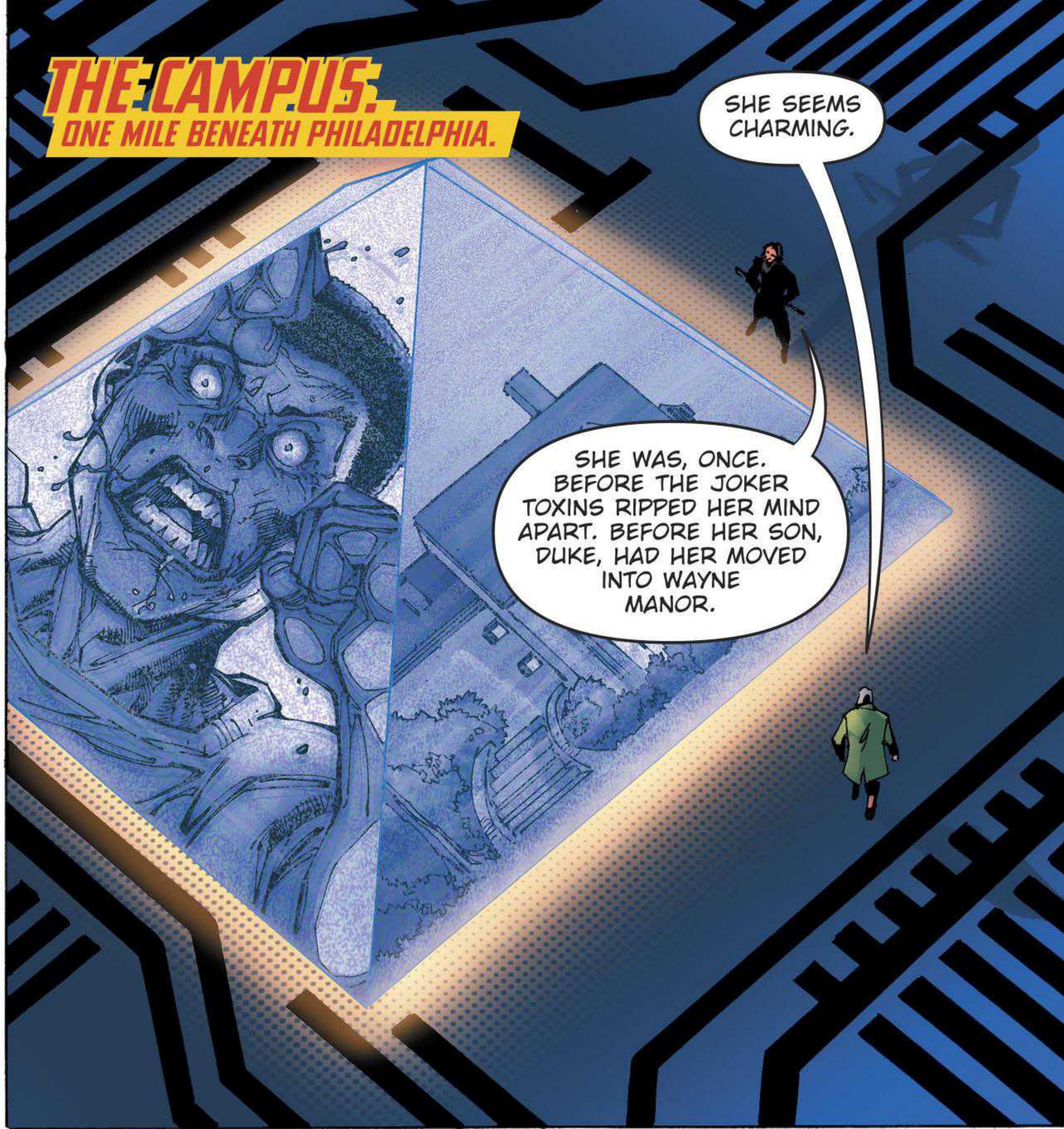
THE BATCAVE.

THERE'S MORE SPOOKY CRAP IN THIS PLACE EVERY TIME I VISIT...

ALL RIGHT, LET'S FIND WHAT'S GOT GANHET'S ROBES UP IN A BUNCH AND GET THE HELL OUT OF THIS MAUSOLEUM.







From that night on, that fateful night in the Egyptian desert, my story is well known.



The ship was made of a mysterious substance called Nth metal. It gave me, my wife, and our mortal enemy, Hath-Set, eternal life, sending us into a cycle of reincarnation--Shiera and I fighting on the side of good, Hath-Set on that of evil.

We were born hundreds, even thousands of times over, cast against each other.



But the truth is, sometimes, in those dark moments, those moments in between lives, before being born again, I would catch glimpses...

...glimpses of something bigger, a mystery behind our lives, our story.



Something terrifying. Something on a scale I'd never seen before. A dream... no, not a dream. A nightmare, echoing through the metal.

NNAAAH!

So I began following a mystery of my own. Something I told no one about. Not until now.



Here in these pages.



A mystery that would take me places I never dreamed.

LUNAR BATCAVE. THE MOON.

COMPUTER.

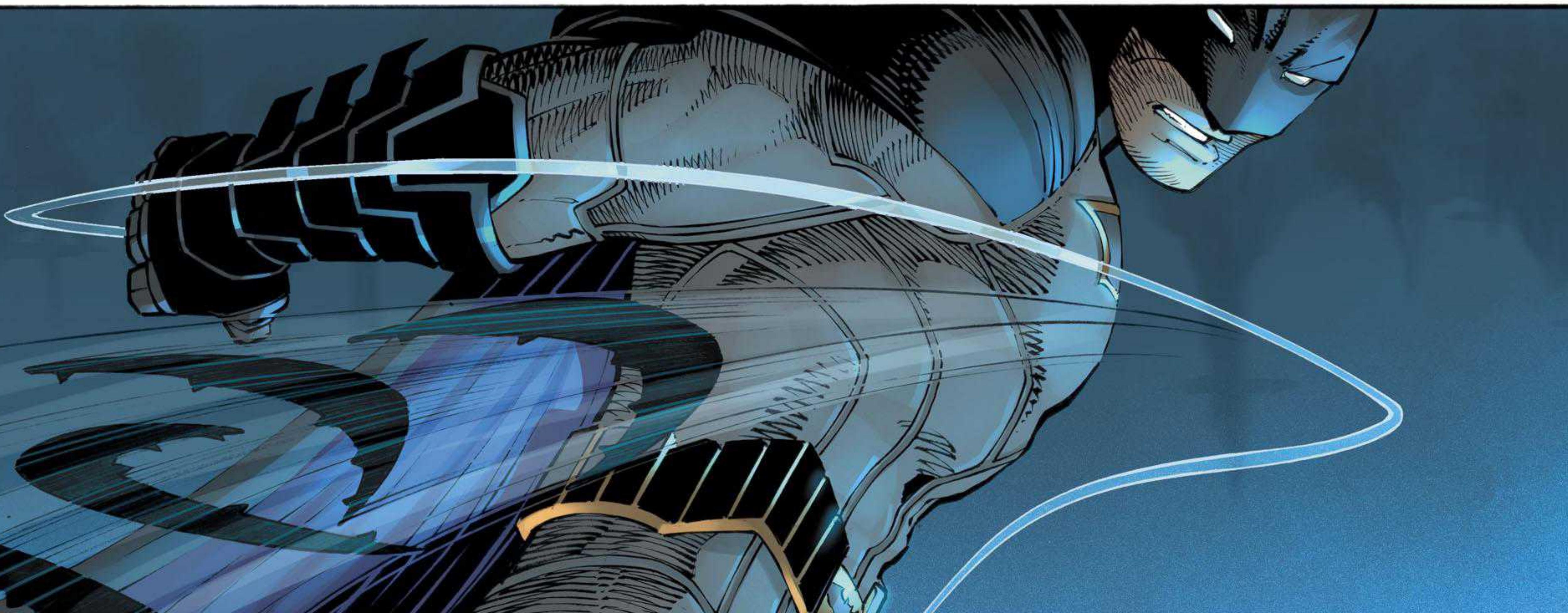
K
S
H
A
P
T

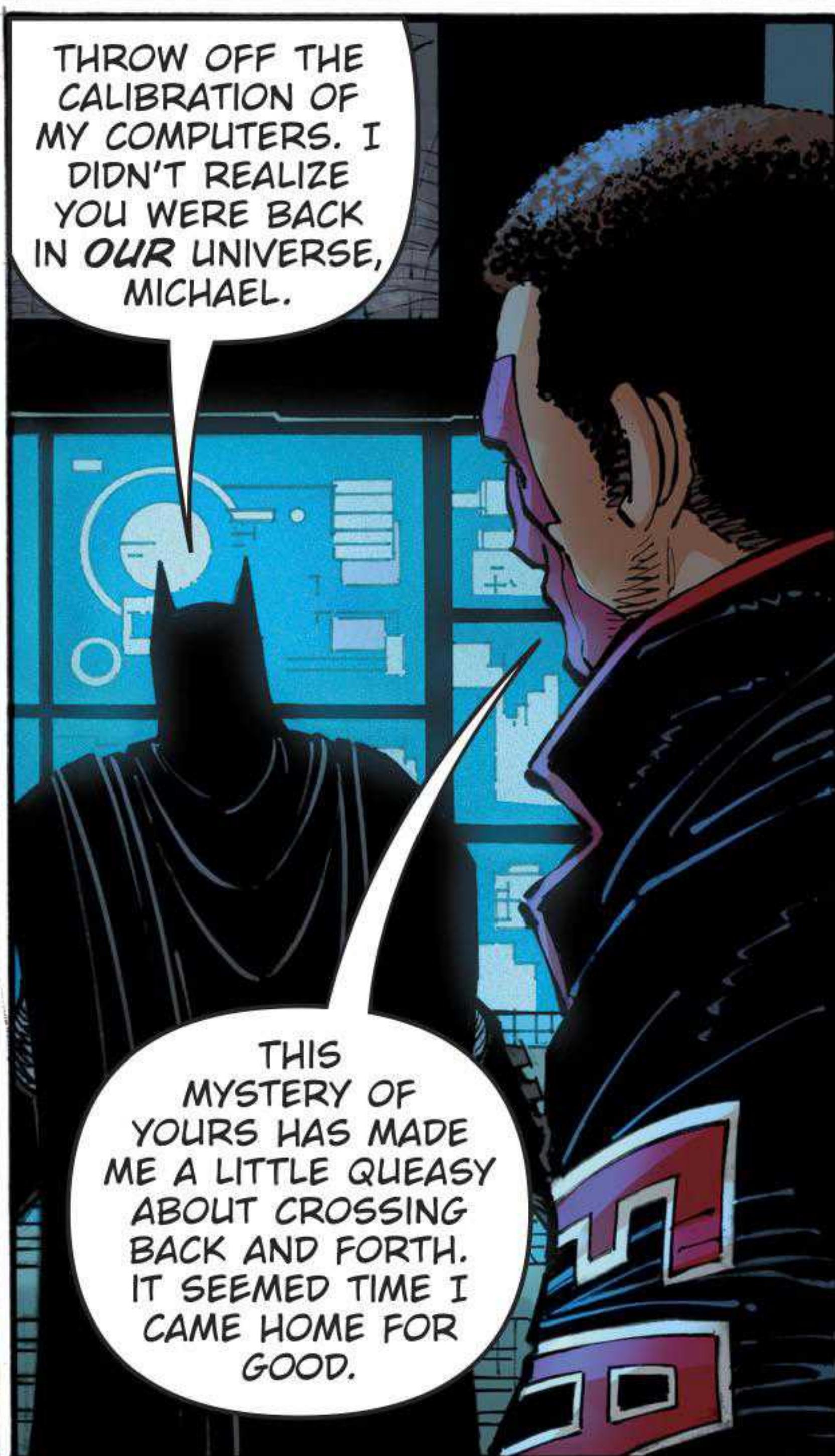
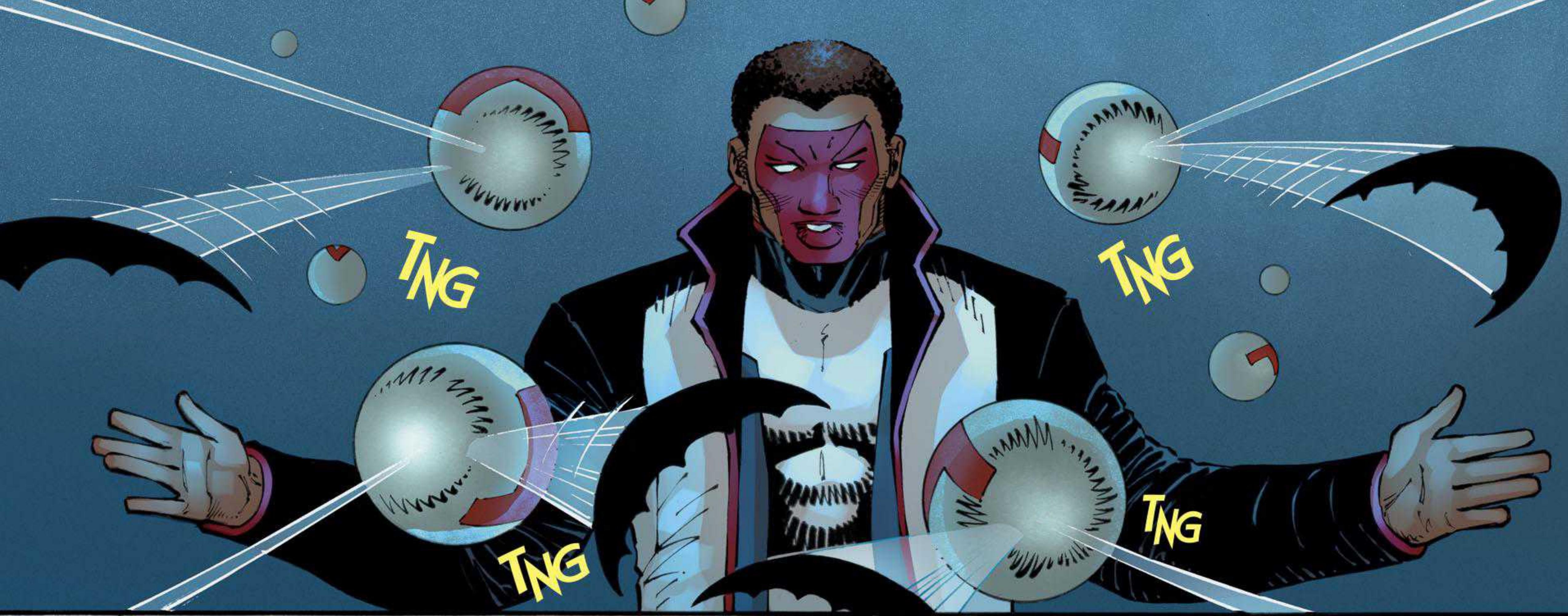
SEND A MESSAGE TO LUCIUS.

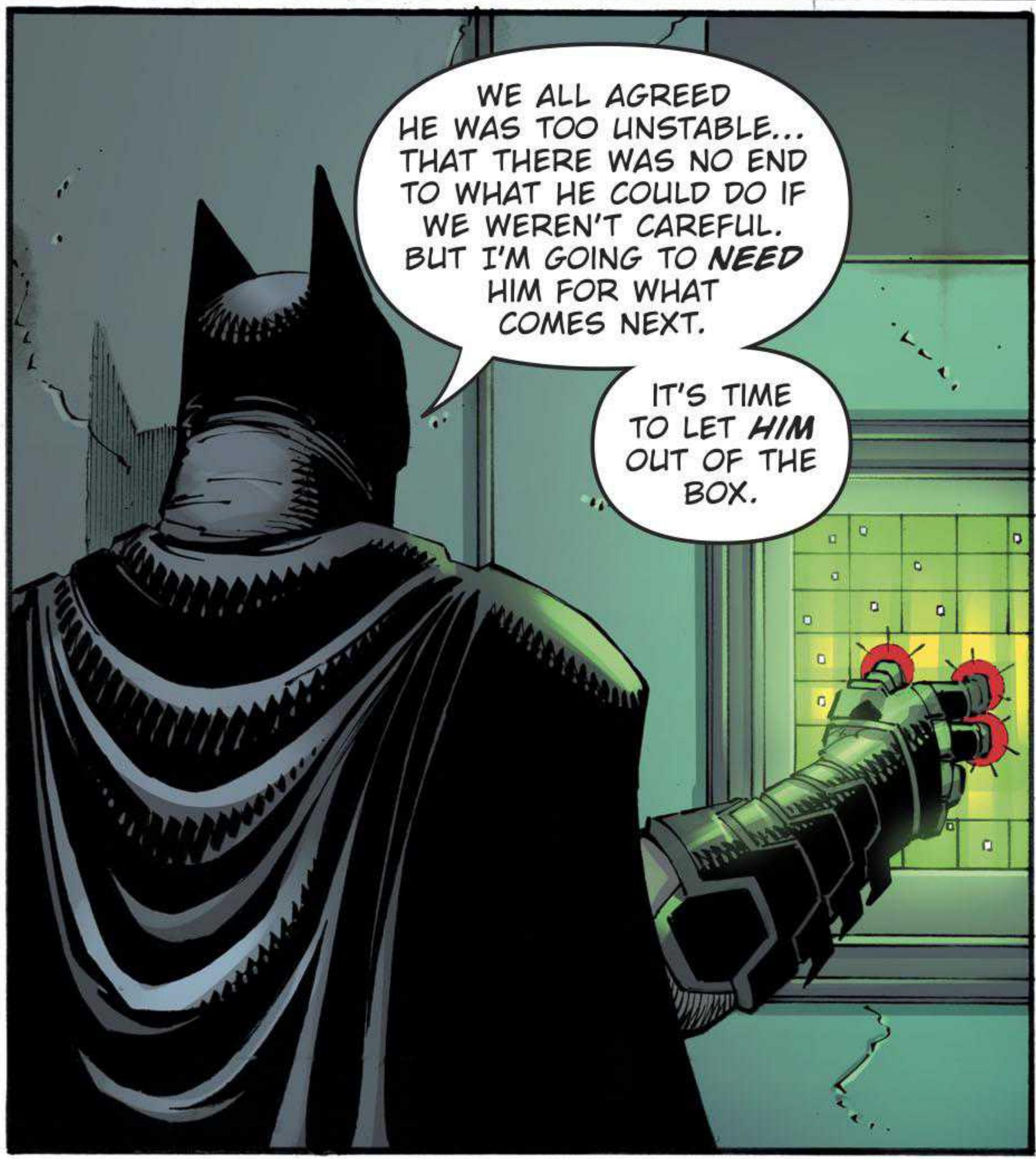
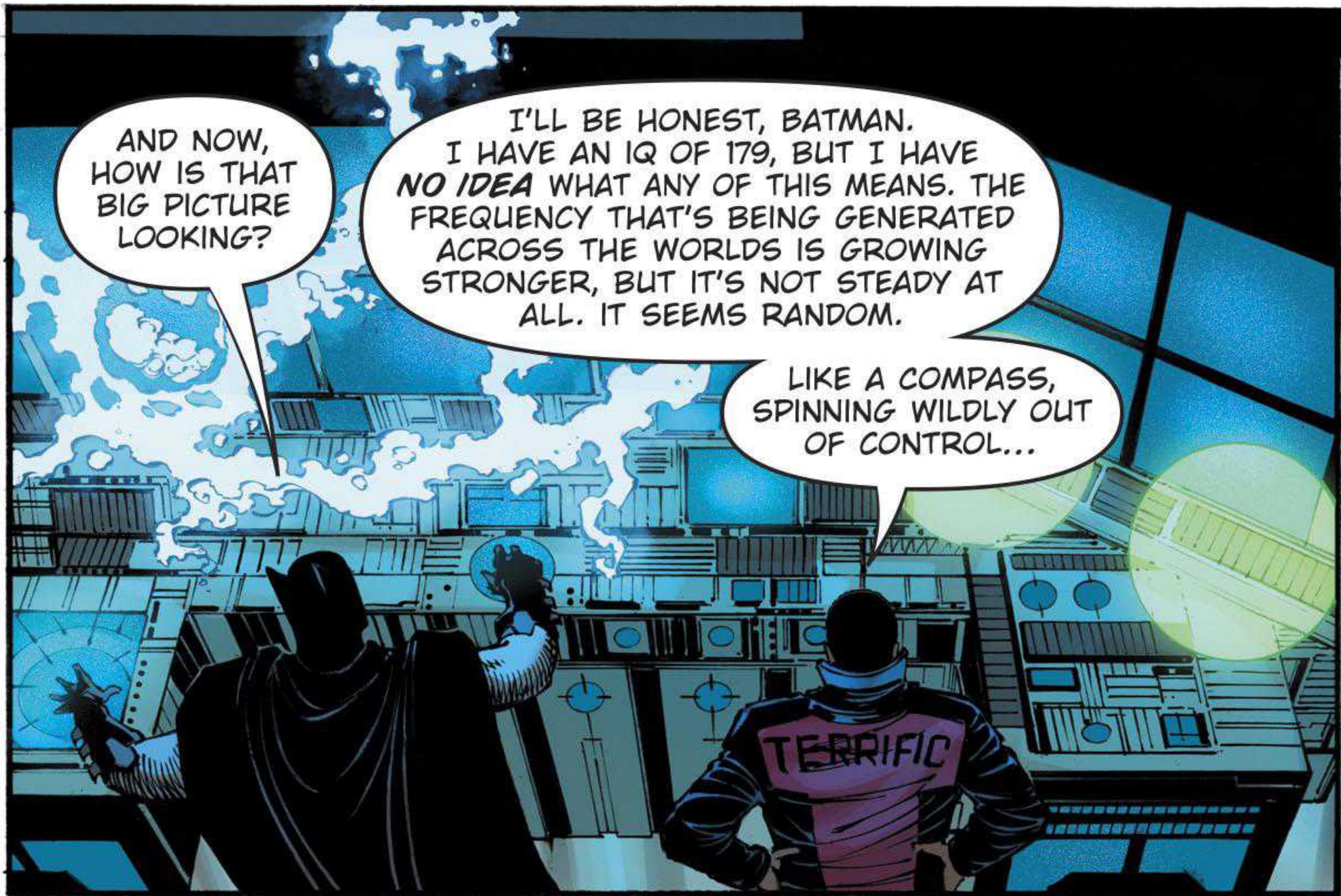
BLACK SITE 14 IS DOWN. I WANT SITE 15 UP AND RUNNING WITHIN THE WEEK. KEEP THIS ONE AWAY FROM THE OCEANS.


CREATE UPLINK TO THE SHADOW DRIVE. ADDING NEW GEOLOGICAL DATA FOR COMPARISONS.

SO, IT WAS AS BAD AS YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE?



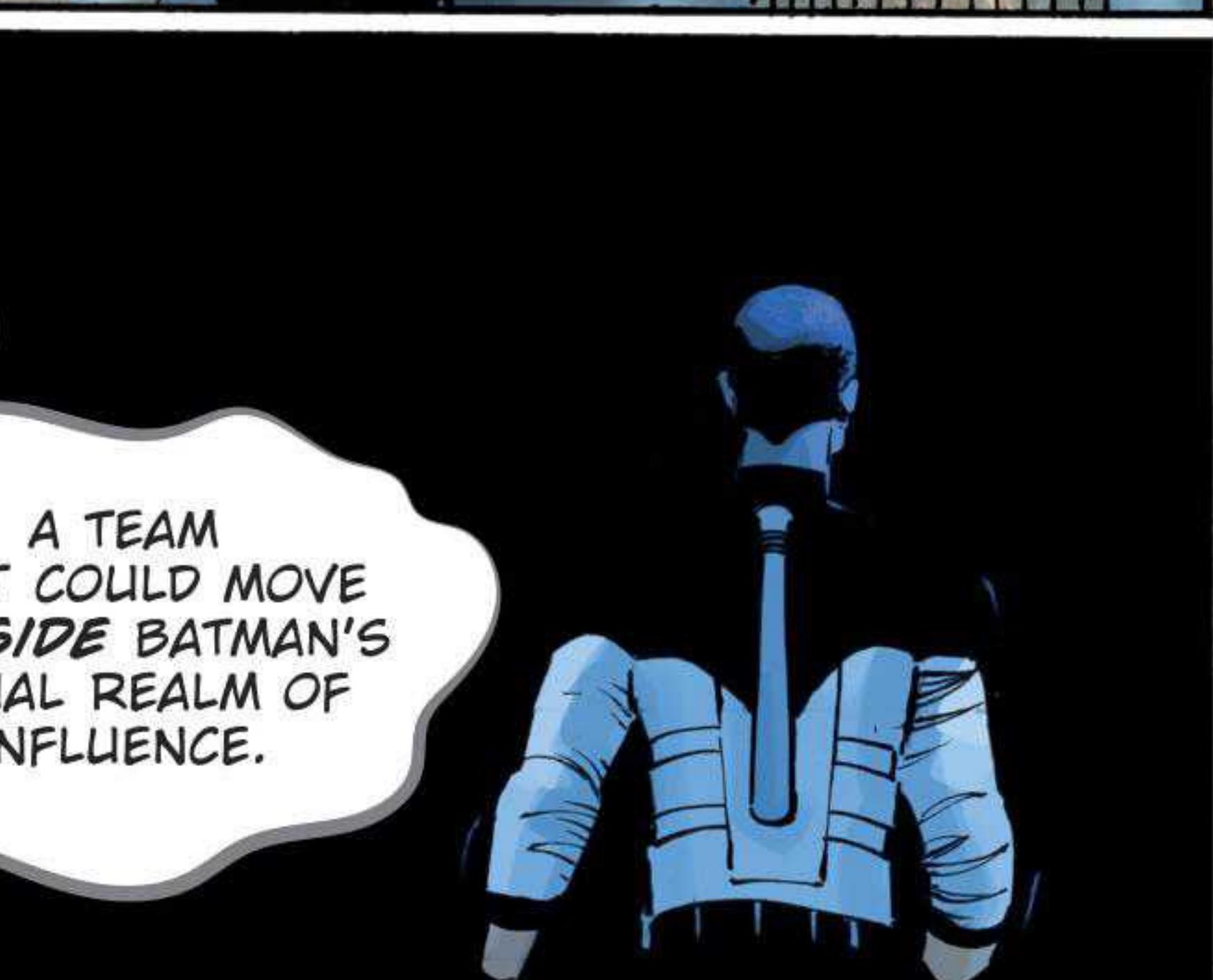
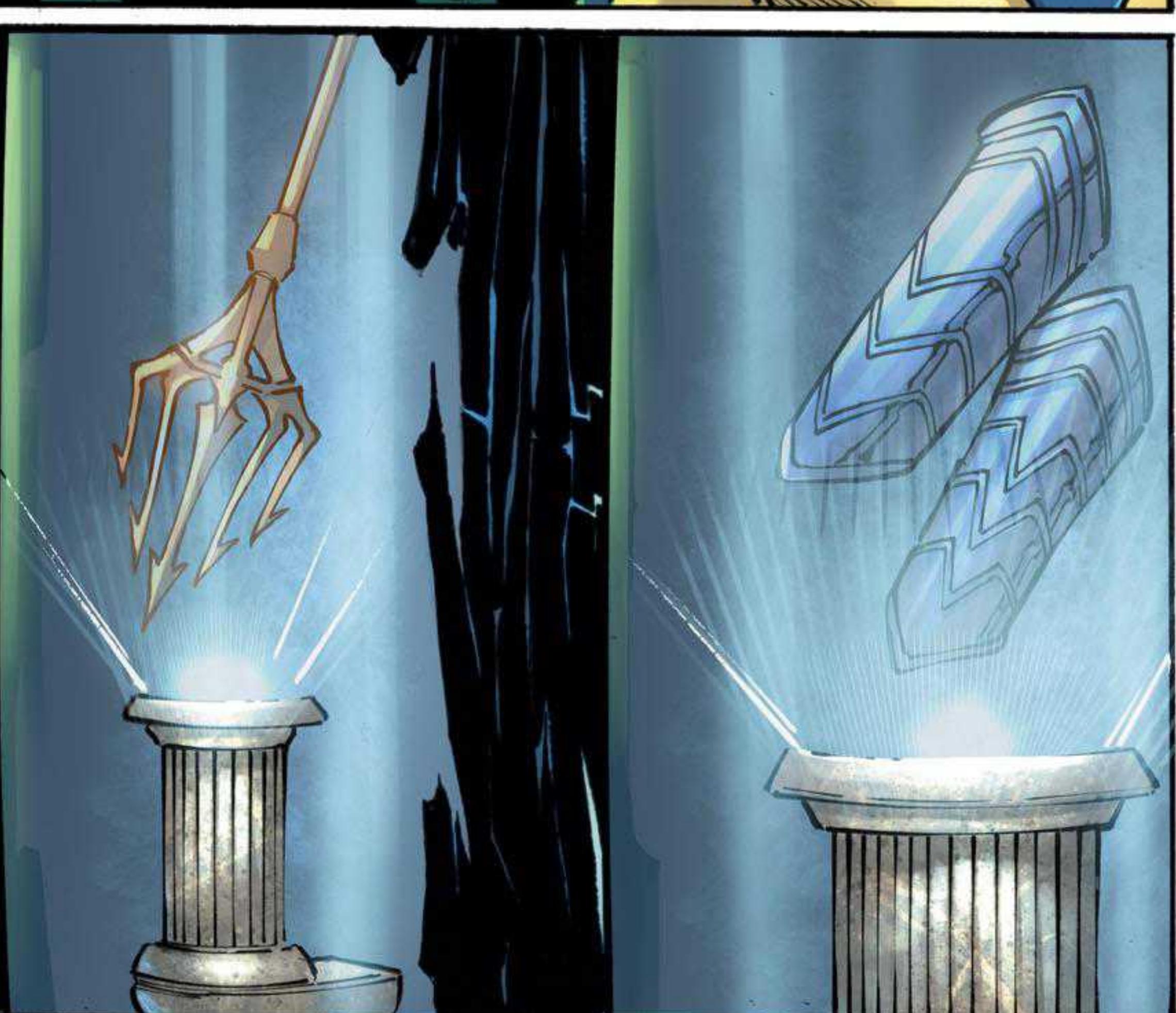
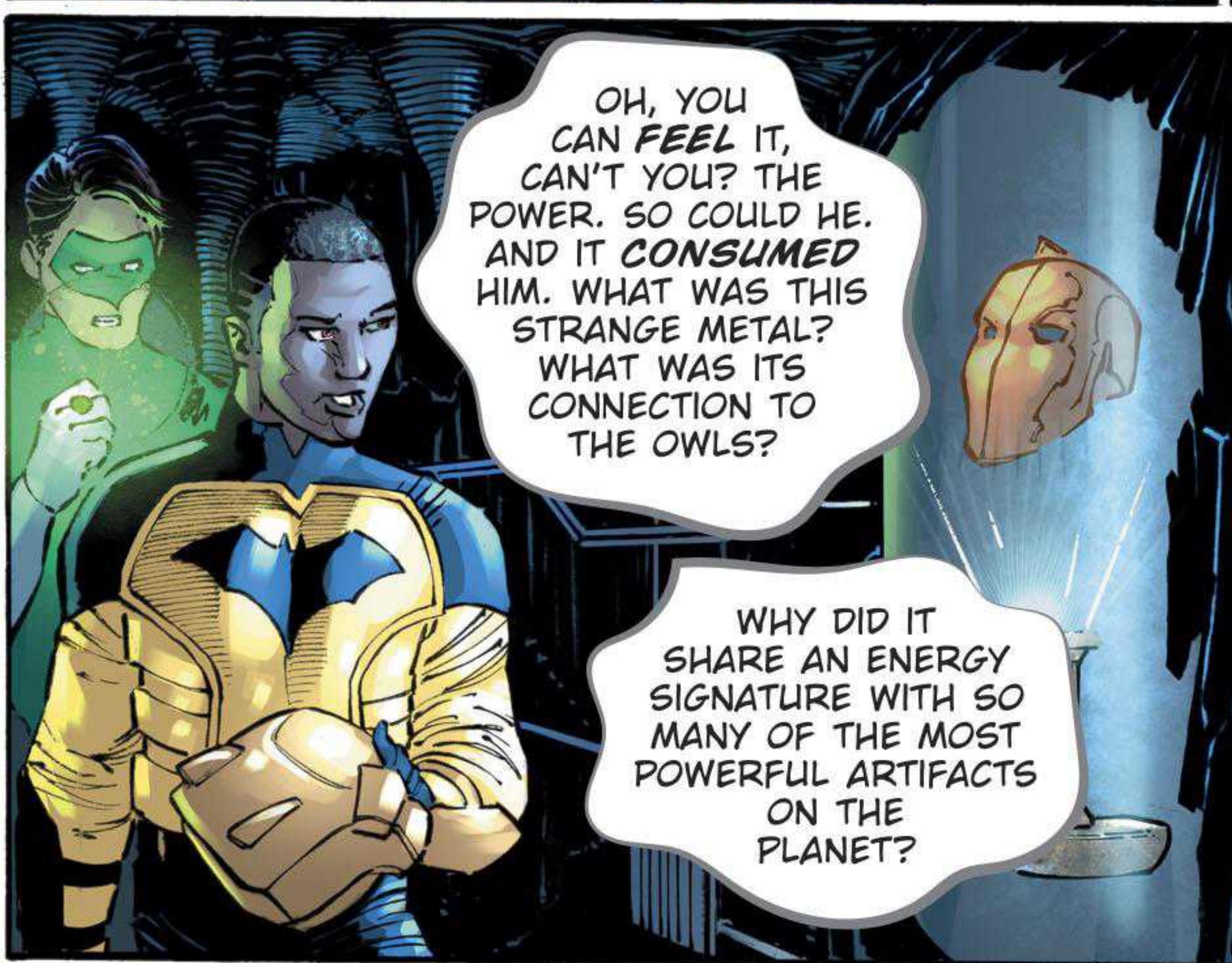
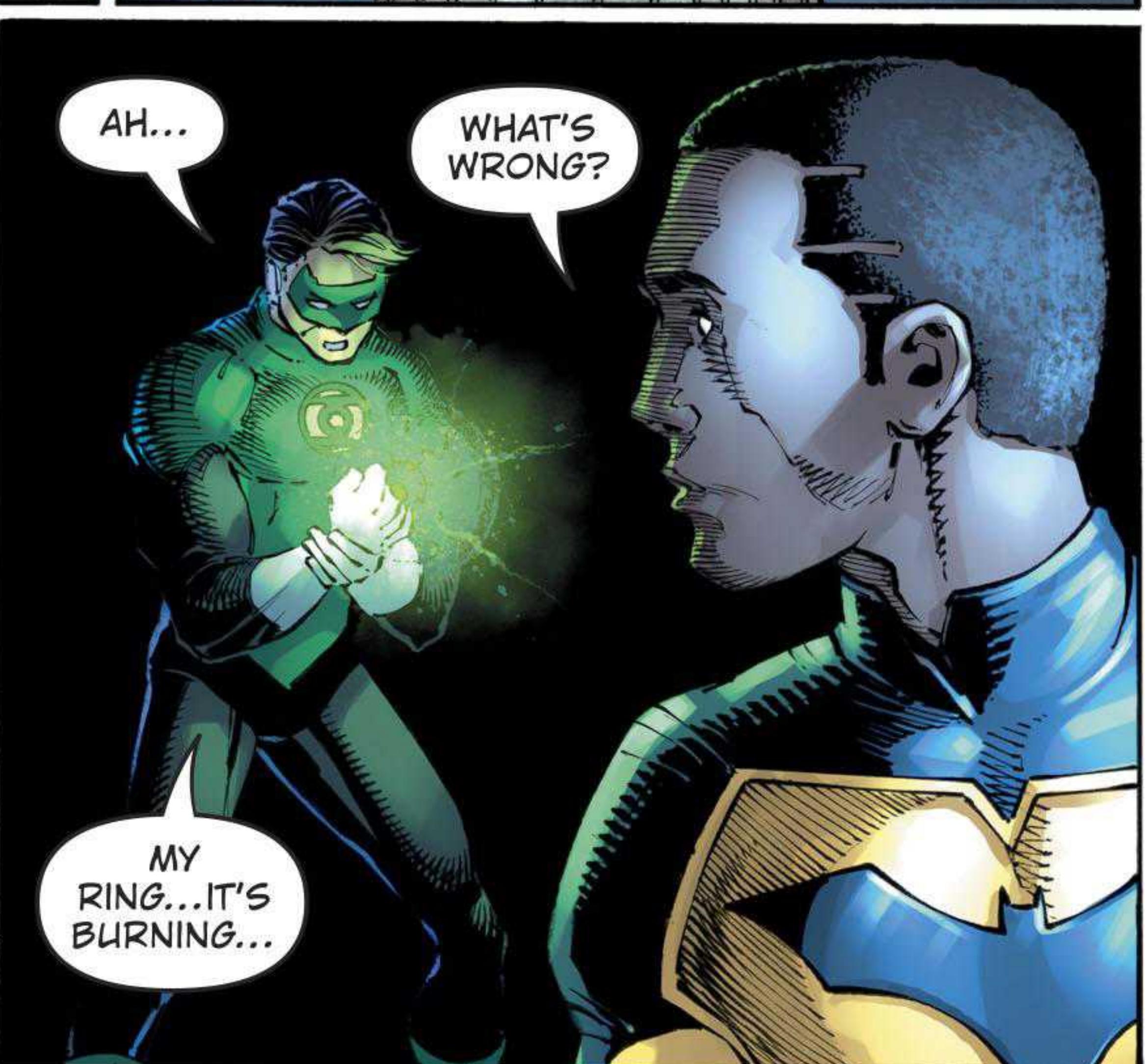
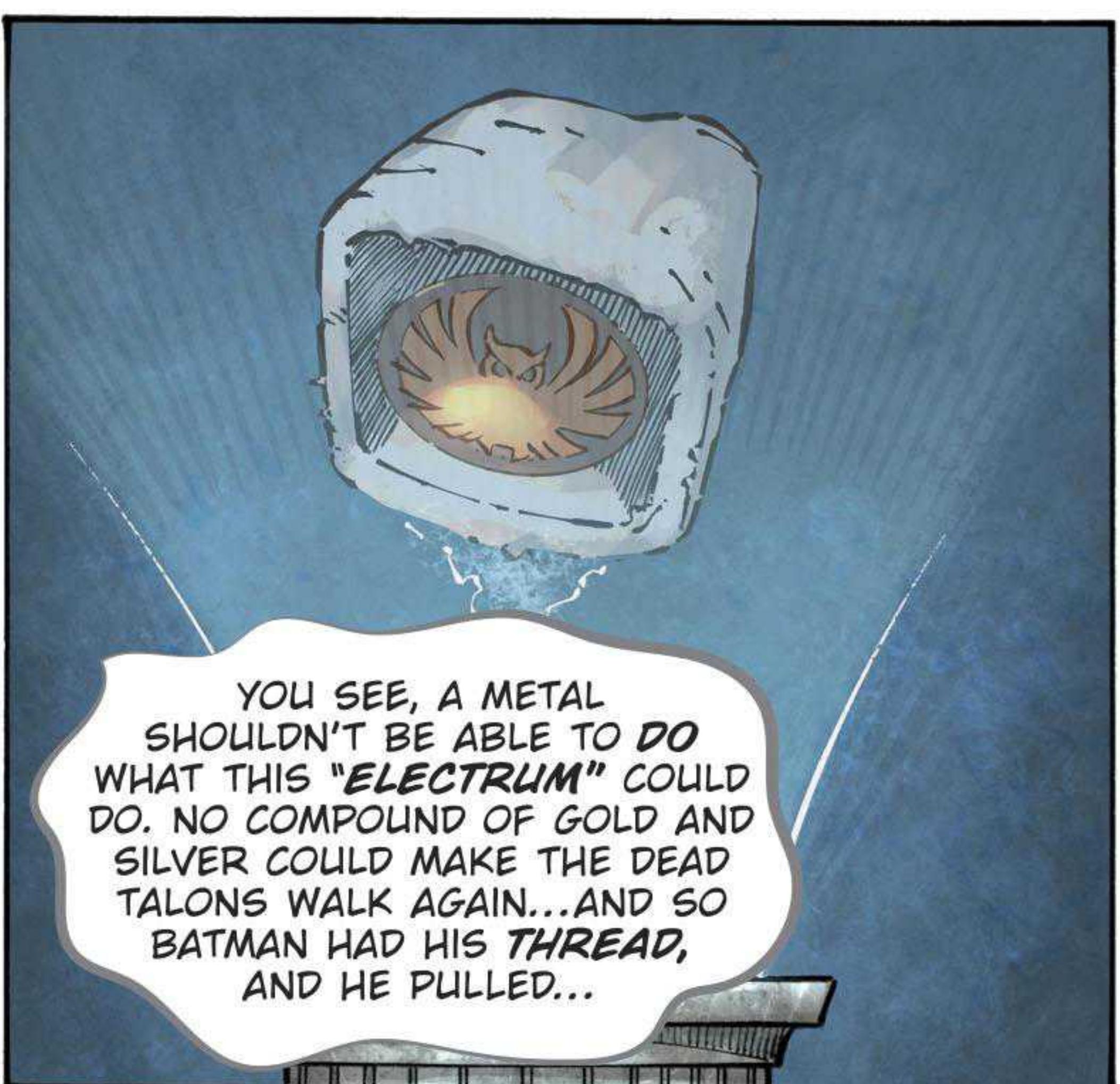


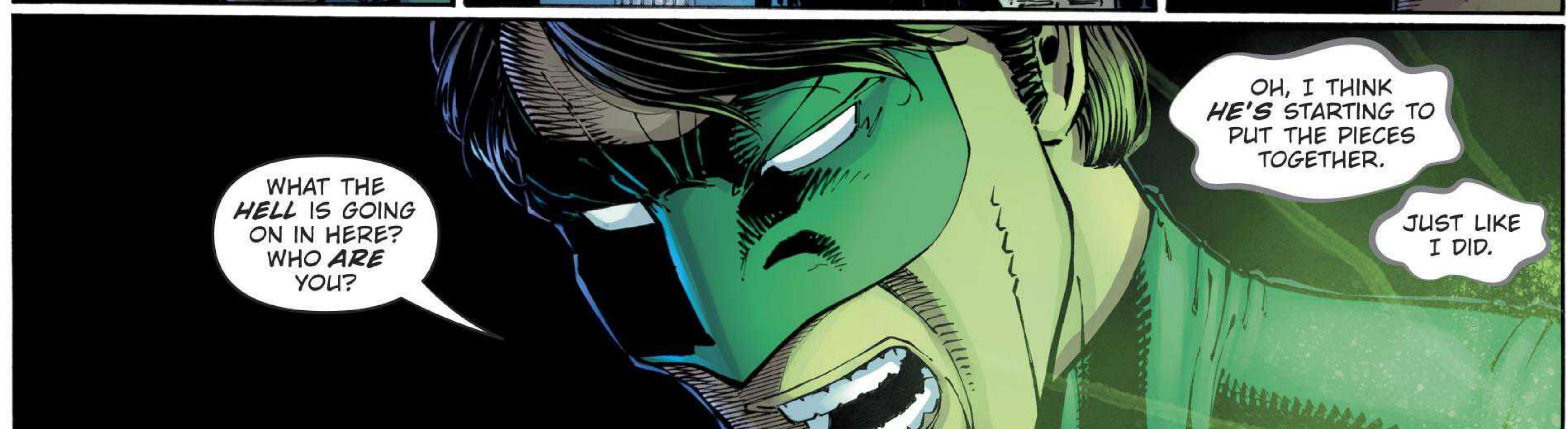
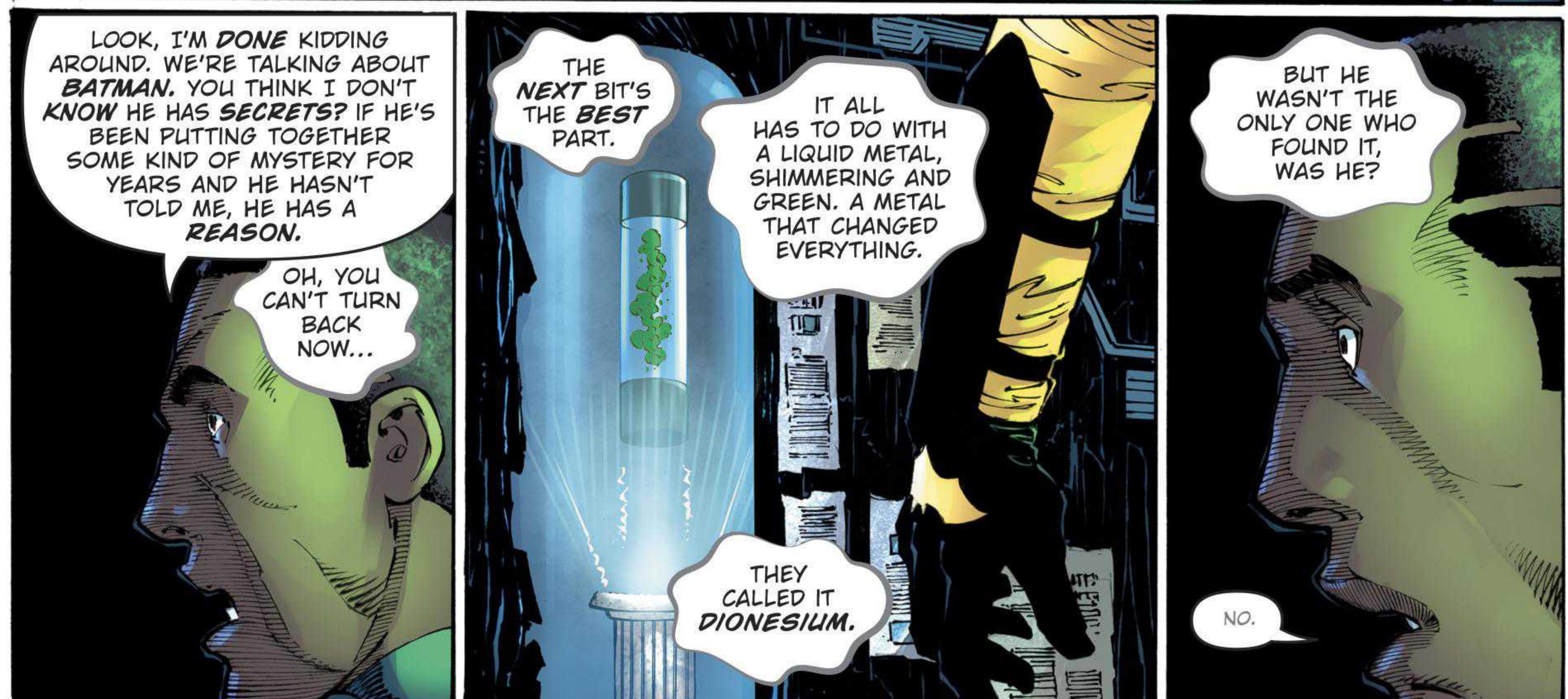




THE BATCAVE.







YOU SEE, HE WAS DRAGGED INTO THIS WORLD FOR A **REASON**. THE SAME REASON I'M SURE YOUR CELESTIAL BOSSSES SENT YOU DIGGING FOR ANSWERS.

SHOW YOURSELF.

BECUSE BATMAN IS GETTING CLOSER TO THE TRUTH.



-ZZZT-
CANNOT COMPLY
-ZZZT- ANOMALY
DETECTED
-ZZZT-

AAAHHHHHHH!

MY ARM'S ON FIRE. LET'S GO BACK TO THE CAVE. I CAN BRING IN THE LEAGUE... SOMETHING'S VERY WRONG HERE.

NO.
WE KEEP GOING.

OH,
MR. GREEN
LANTERN. ARE
YOU AFRAID?

I
DON'T
GET
AFRAID.

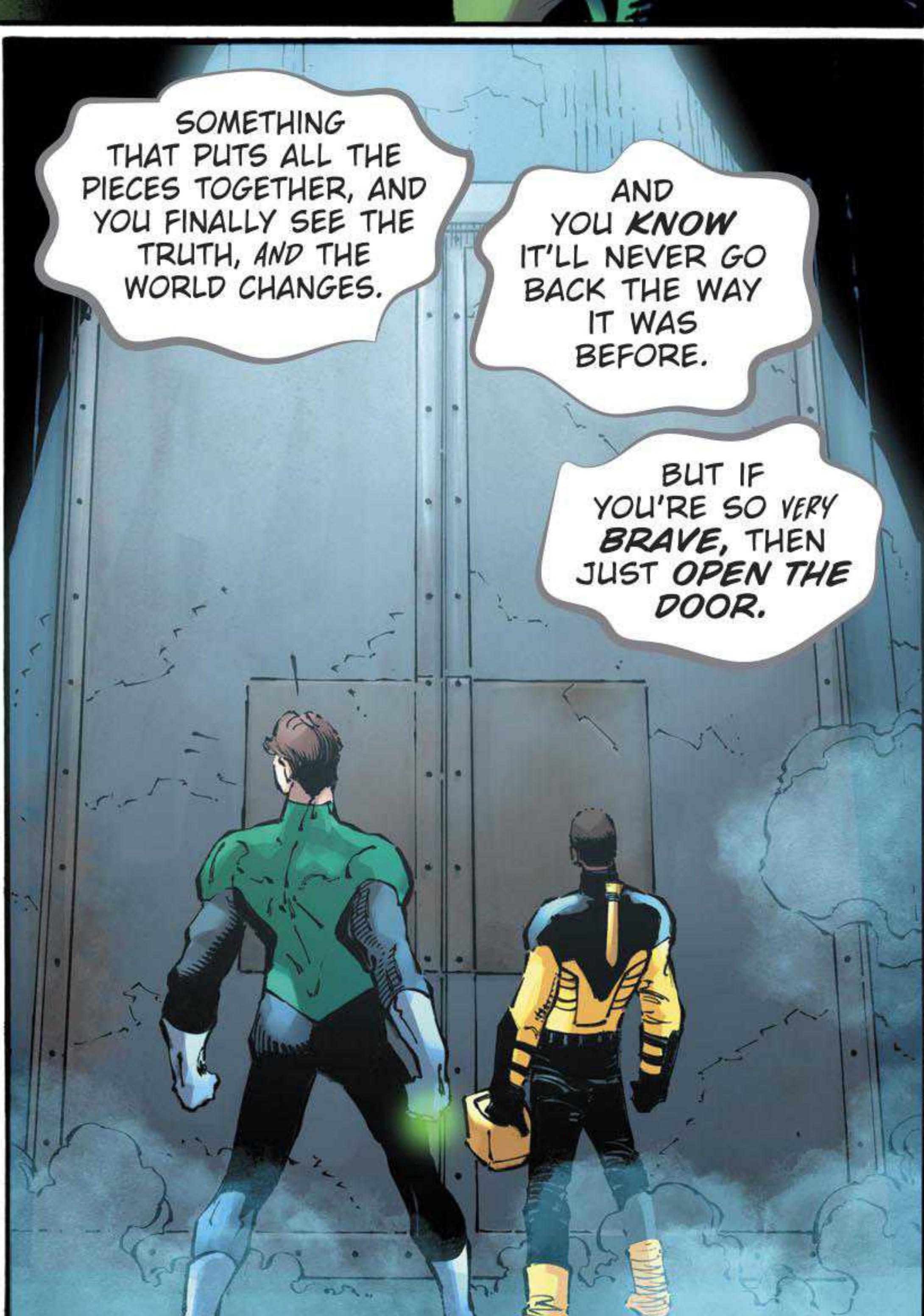
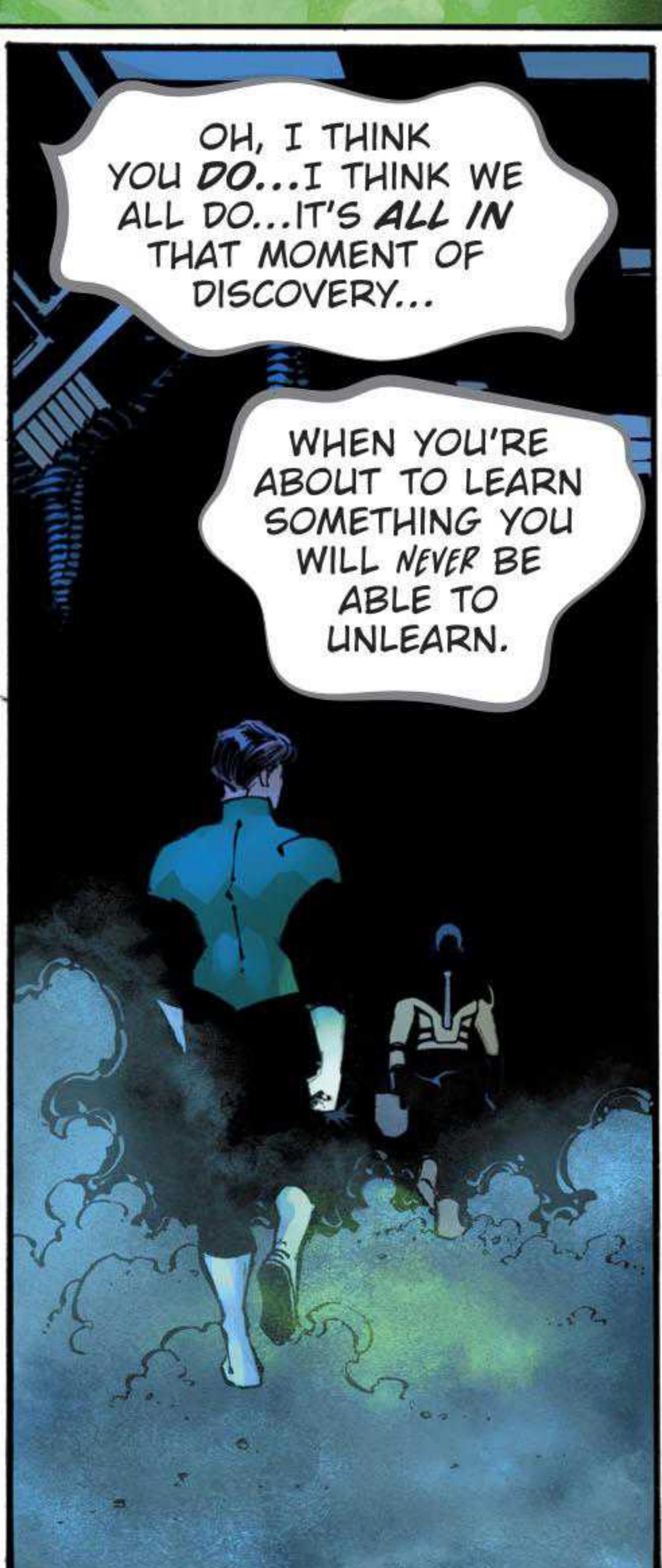
OH, I THINK
YOU DO... I THINK WE
ALL DO... IT'S ALL IN
THAT MOMENT OF
DISCOVERY...

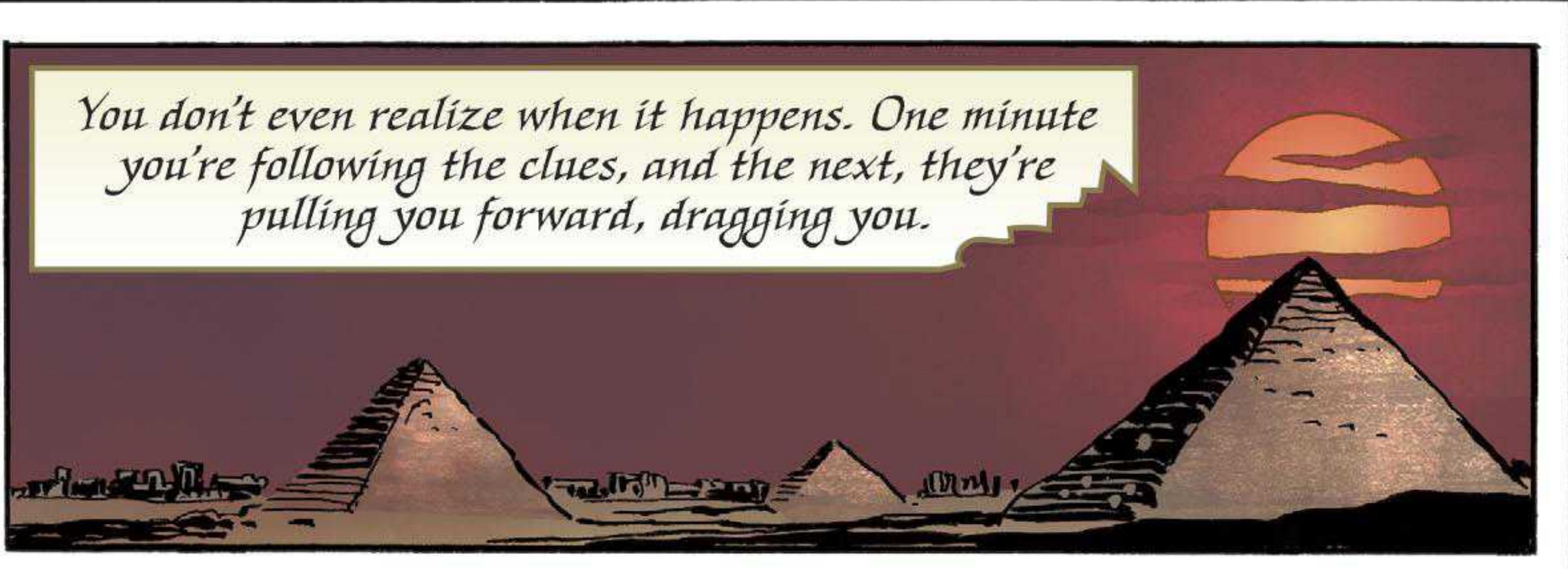
WHEN YOU'RE
ABOUT TO LEARN
SOMETHING YOU
WILL NEVER BE
ABLE TO
UNLEARN.

SOMETHING
THAT PUTS ALL THE
PIECES TOGETHER, AND
YOU FINALLY SEE THE
TRUTH, AND THE
WORLD CHANGES.

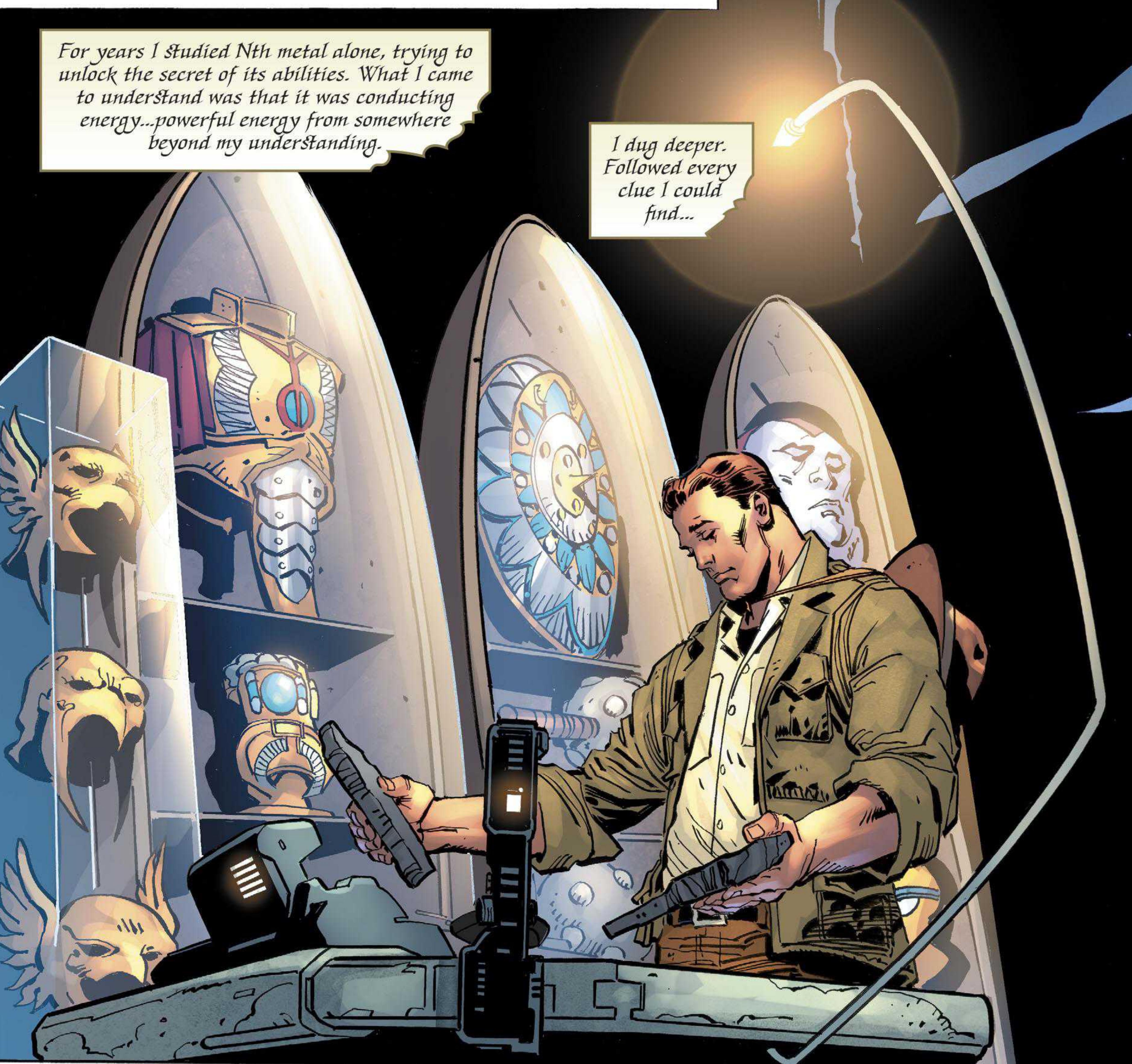
AND
YOU KNOW
IT'LL NEVER GO
BACK THE WAY
IT WAS
BEFORE.

BUT IF
YOU'RE SO VERY
BRAVE, THEN
JUST OPEN THE
DOOR.





You don't even realize when it happens. One minute you're following the clues, and the next, they're pulling you forward, dragging you.



For years I studied Nth metal alone, trying to unlock the secret of its abilities. What I came to understand was that it was conducting energy...powerful energy from somewhere beyond my understanding.

I dug deeper. Followed every clue I could find...



Until one day I got a glimpse.



A glimpse of a story that began with the first men to walk the Earth. Three tribes...



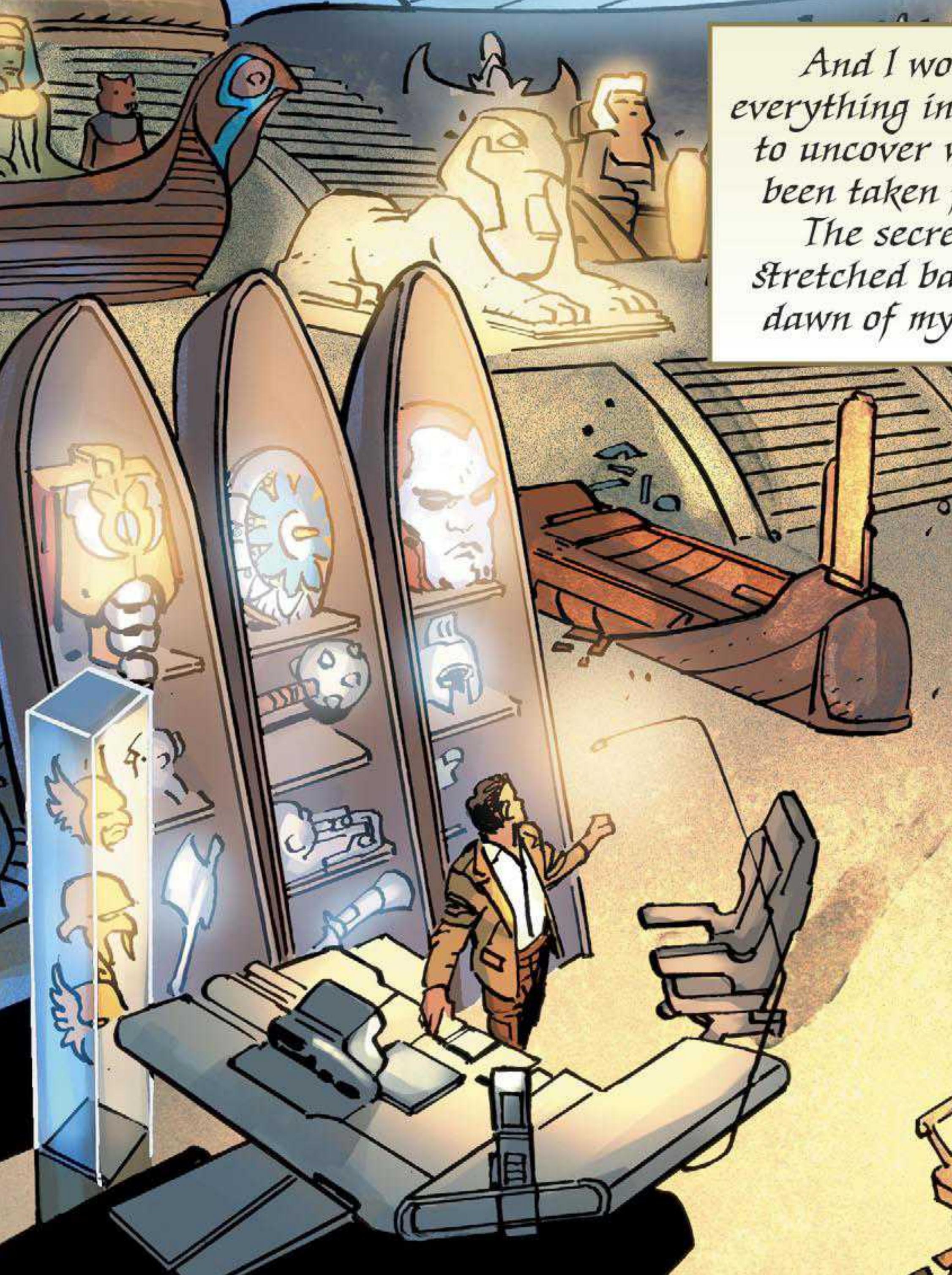
Or rather...four.



And something else...



I was part of something bigger, something beyond my control.



And I would do everything in my power to uncover what had been taken from me. The secret that stretched back to the dawn of my species.

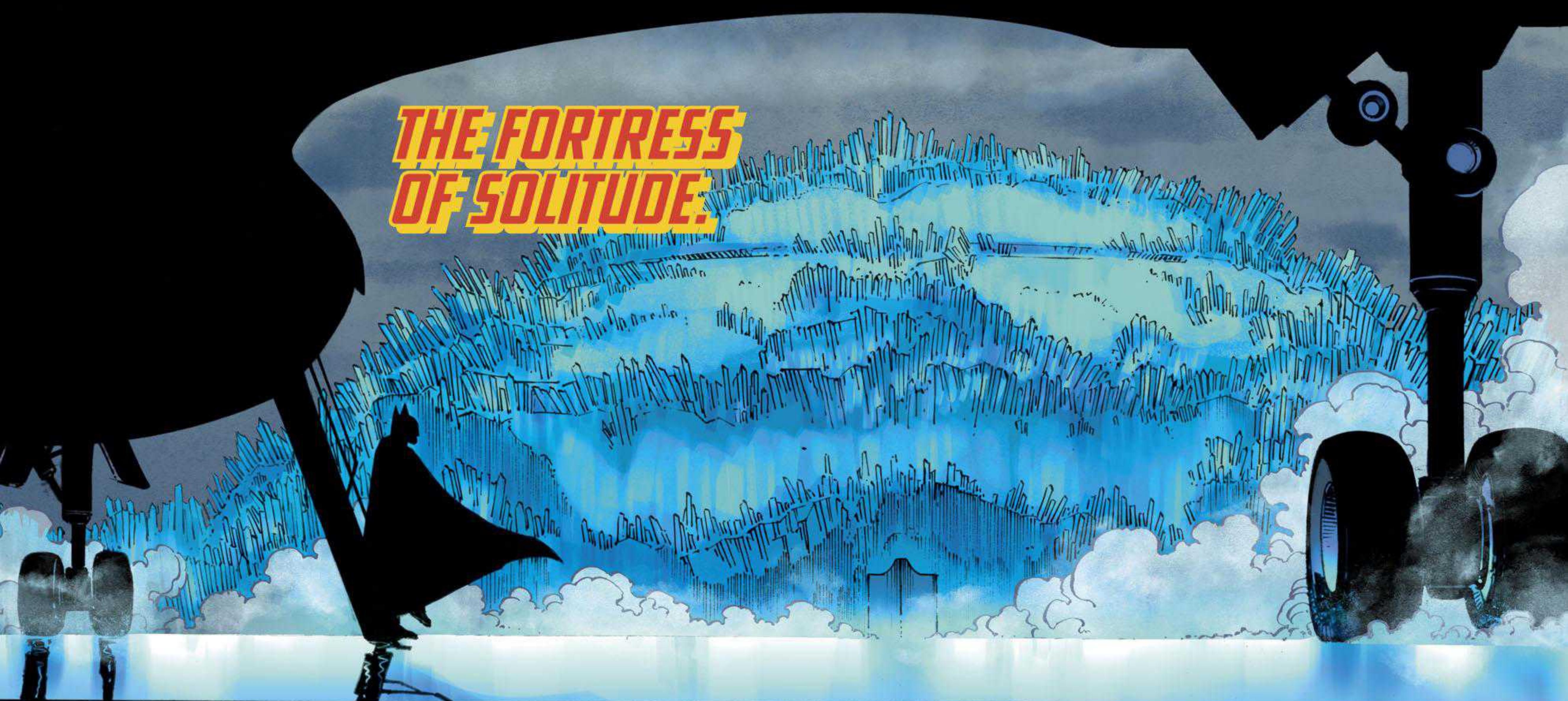


No matter what the cost.

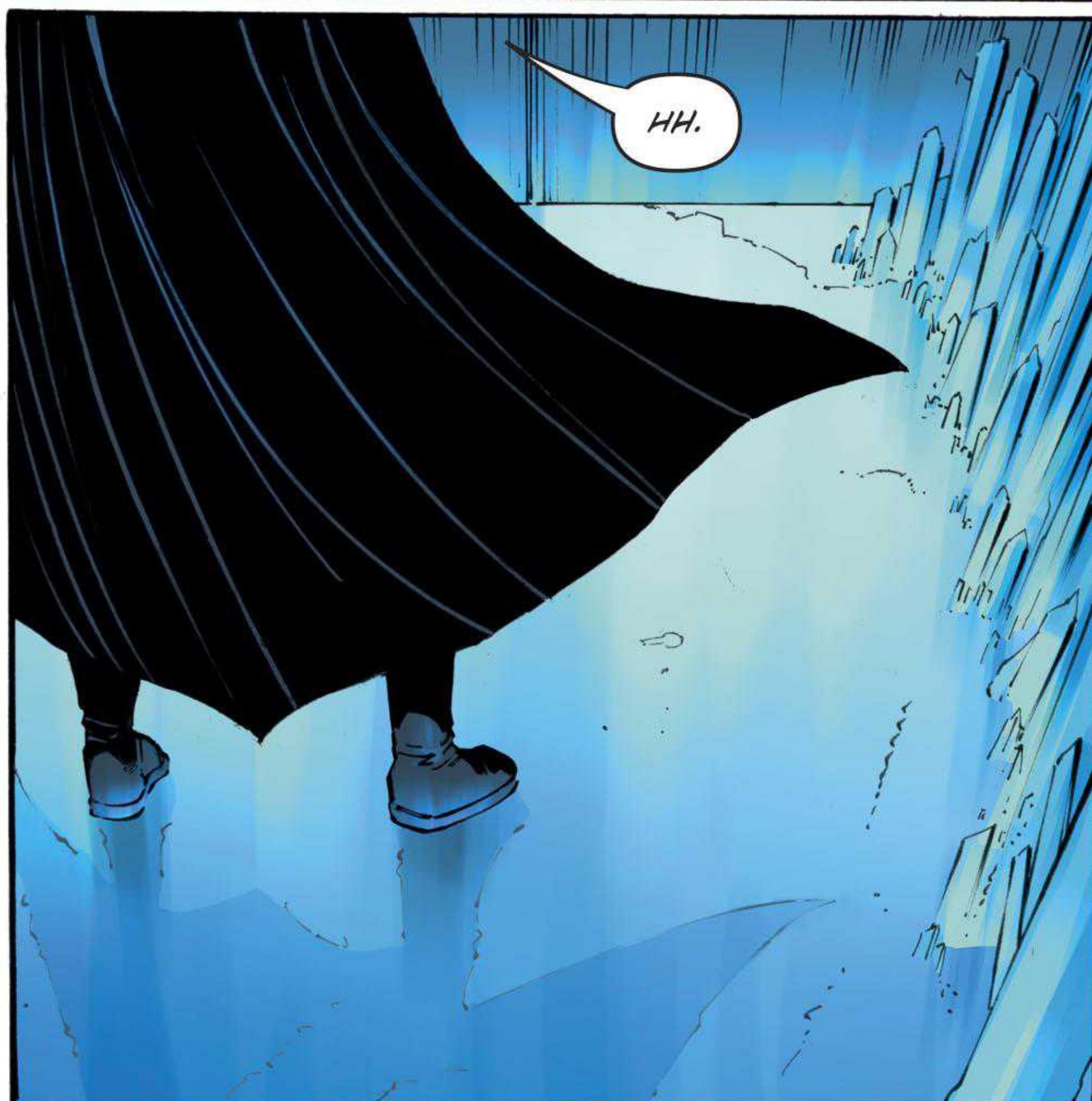
**THE ARCTIC
CIRCLE.**



**THE FORTRESS
OF SOLITUDE.**



HH.



CLARK. I
KNOW YOU'RE
IN THERE. LET
ME IN.



YOU KNOW,
IT WOULDN'T KILL
YOU TO SAY PLEASE
EVERY NOW AND
THEN.



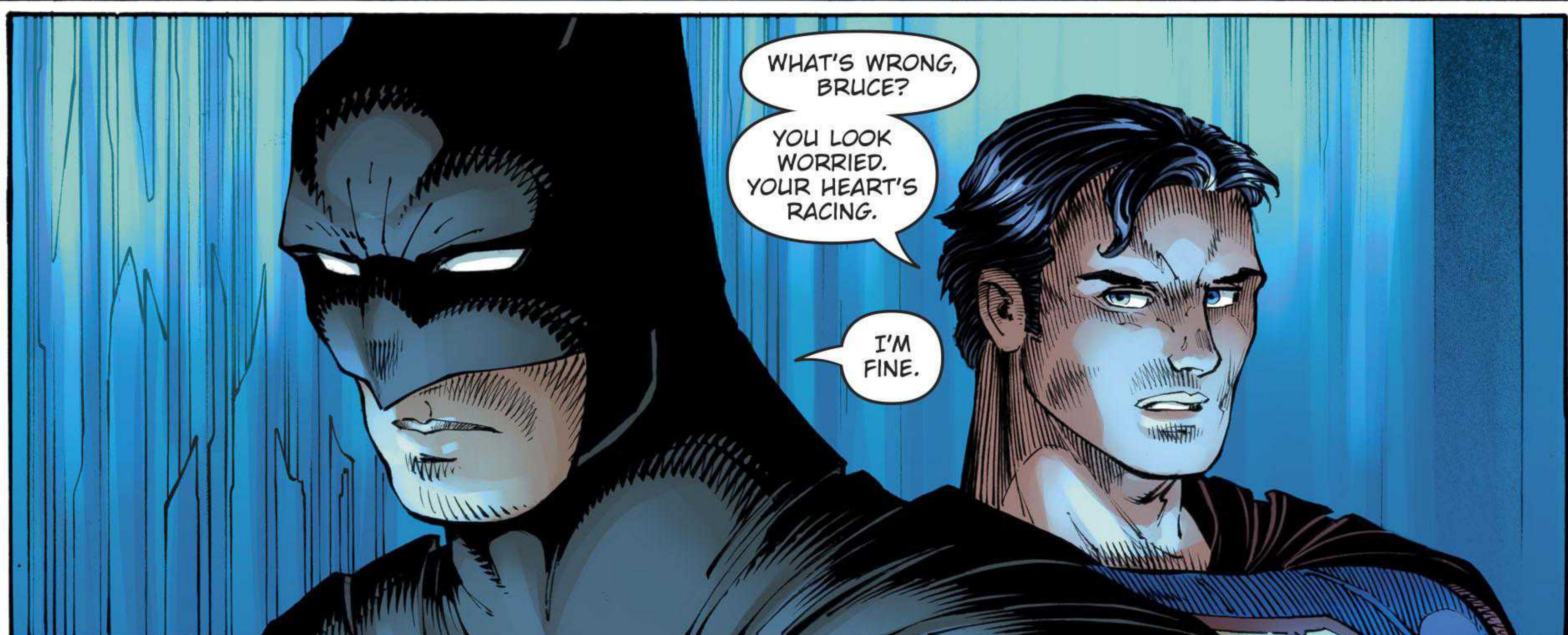
I THINK
IT ACTUALLY
MIGHT.

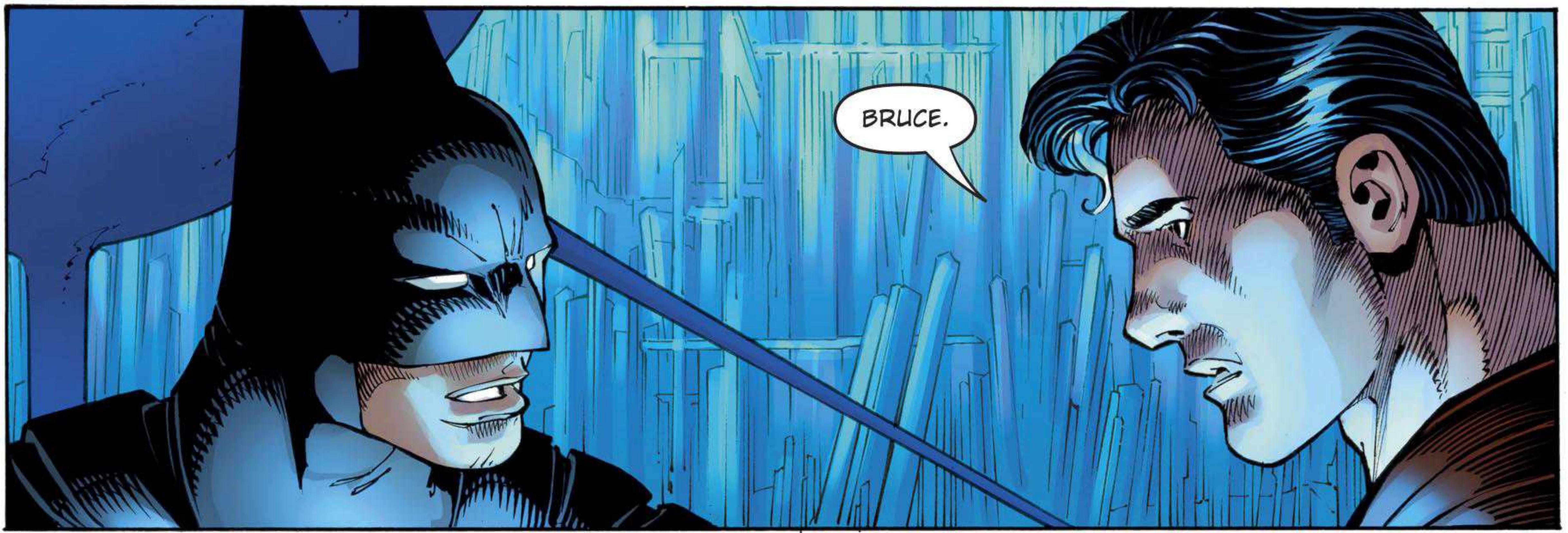


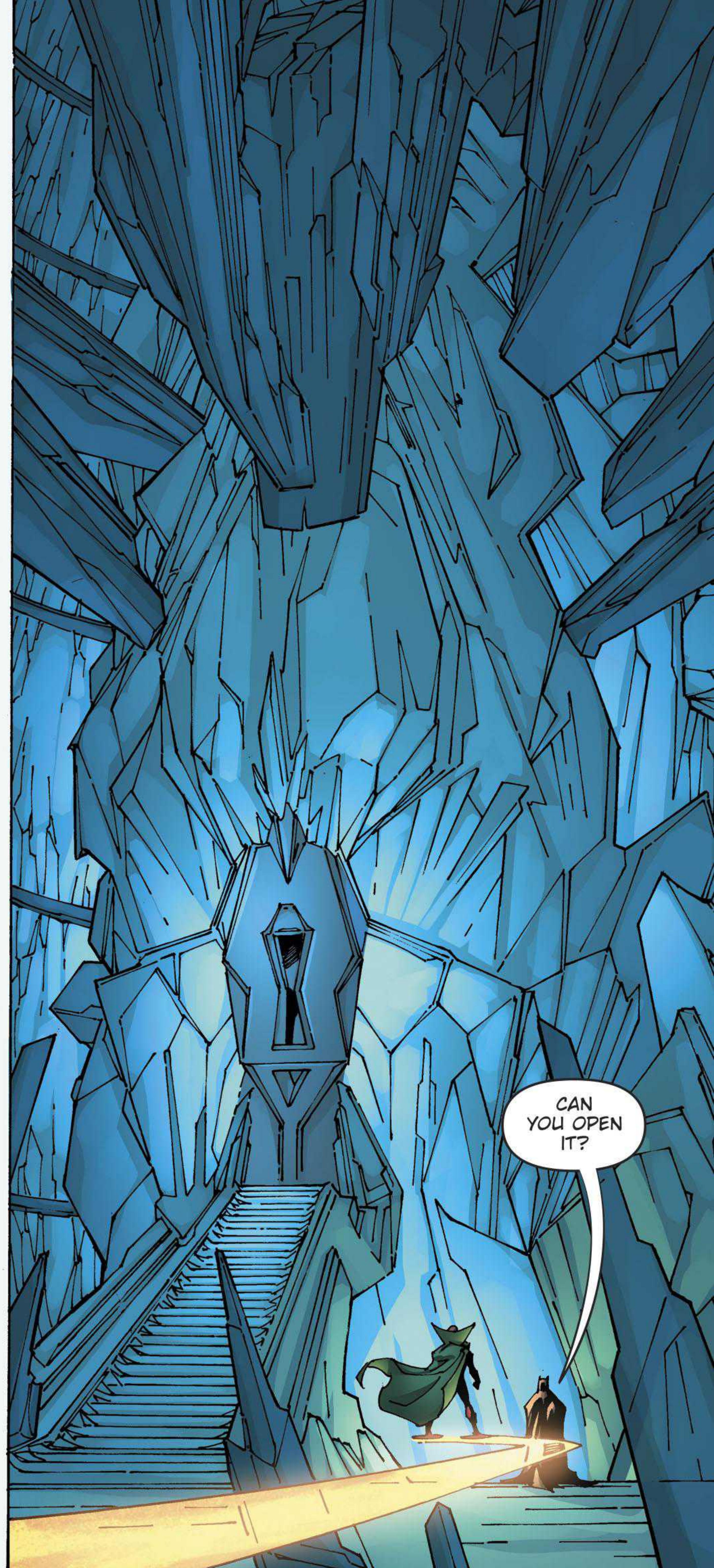
WHAT'S WRONG,
BRUCE?

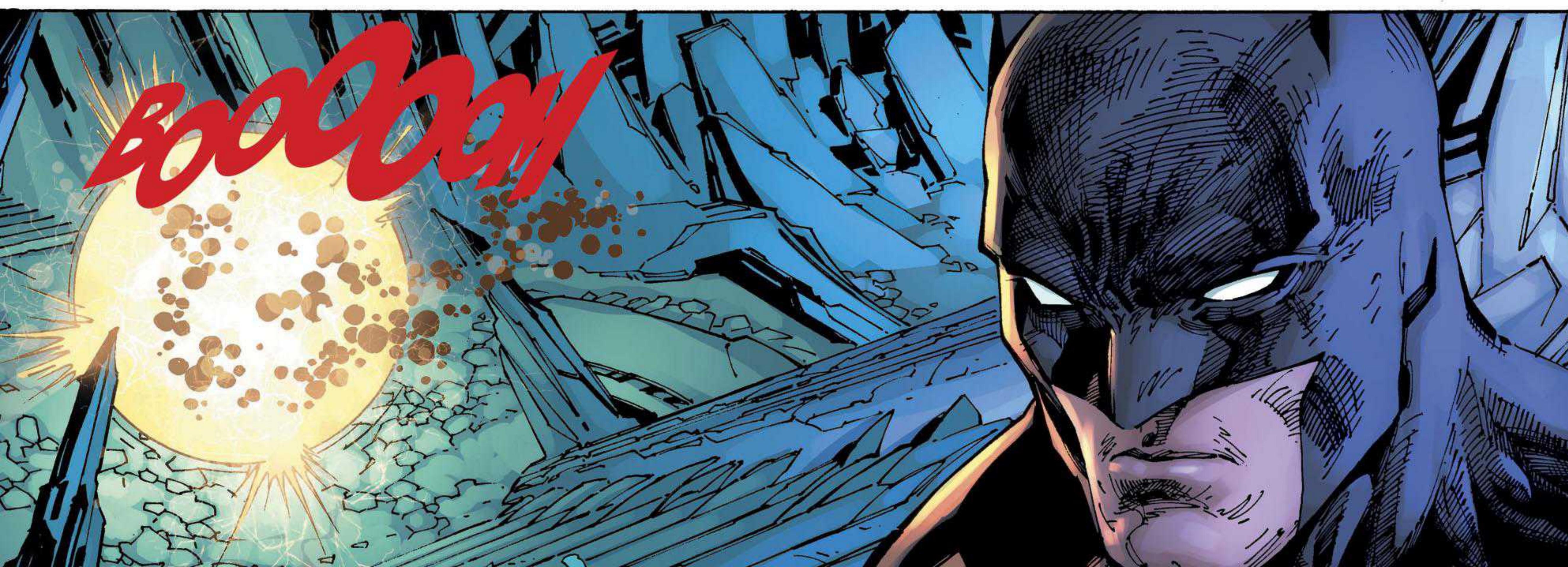
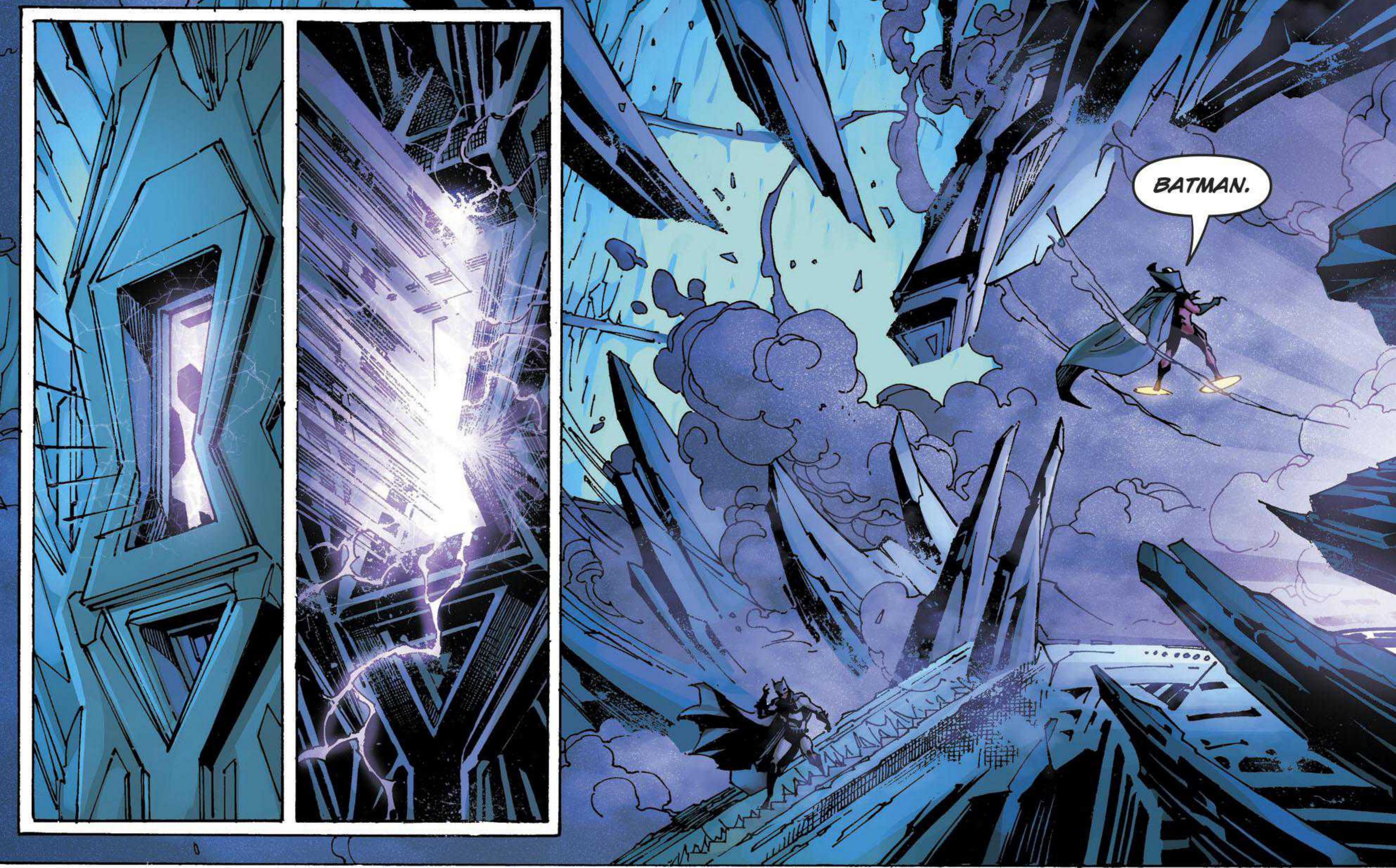
YOU LOOK
WORRIED.
YOUR HEART'S
RACING.

I'M
FINE.









I wish I could go back to that moment and warn myself.

I write this journal for anyone foolish enough to pick up my trail.

Whatever you do, do not follow in my footsteps.

LIKE A COMPASS...

COMPUTER. RUN ALL VIBRATIONAL DATA THROUGH THE TOWER. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRACK THE EXACT DIMENSIONAL FREQUENCY OF THE DARK ENERGY.

RECEIVING DATA...

IT'S TIME, THEN...

TIME TO SEE WHAT'S IN THE DARK ONCE AND FOR ALL.

VERBAN
000010010
100110011

I beg of you,
whoever might be
reading this,
however many
generations might
have passed...

BATMAN,
WHAT THE HELL
HAVE YOU GOTTEN
YOURSELF INTO
THIS TIME...?

OH, I
CAN TELL YOU
THAT.

Do not follow
the mystery of
the metals.

16315533208381422017766974731
70644573115956963881
03876180132171226
THIS IS A
MYSTERY THAT
STRETCHES BACK TO
THE DAWN OF TIME.
IT'S BIGGER THAN
ALL OF US.

AND
IT SURE AS
HELL IS BIGGER
THAN YOU.

Some mysteries are best
unsolved. Some doors
best left unopened...

3870
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND. ALL
THAT WAS JUST A
CRUEL JOKE.

Because through them,
all you'll find is
horror.

YOU'RE JUST
ANOTHER COUPLE OF
PIECES IN BATMAN'S
PUZZLE.

JUST
LIKE ME.

HAHAHA
HAHAHAHA
HAHAHA
HAHAHA
HA

DARK BAILEY FORGE

SCOTT SNYDER & JAMES TYNION IV writers
JIM LEE, ANDY KUBERT & JOHN ROMITA JR. pencils
SCOTT WILLIAMS, KLAUS JANSON & DANNY MIKI inks
ALEX SINCLAIR WITH JEREMIAH SKIPPER color STEVE WANDS letters
JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS & ALEX SINCLAIR cover
ANDY KUBERT & BRAD ANDERSON,
JOHN ROMITA JR., DANNY MIKI & ALEX SINCLAIR variant covers
DAVE WIELGOSZ asst. editor
REBECCA TAYLOR associate editor
MARK DOYLE editor
BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER.
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.